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VOL. XXIX.—No. 345. MELBOURNE: SEPT. 21st, 1914. [SUBSCRIPTION: 10/- PER ANNUM POST FREE

PHAR Stomge

THE AUSTRALASIAN Journal of Pharmacy

With which is Incorporated

The Australasian Chemist and Druggist.

REGISTERED AT THE GENERAL POST OFFICE, MELBOURNE, FOR TRANSMISSION BY POST AS A NEWSPAPER.

A Wrong Impression

is conveyed in estimating the value of Infant Foods from figures obtained from analysis of the dry material

The Correct Method

as laid down by Dr. Robert Hutchison in his Book "Food and the Principles of Dietetics," page 470, third edition, second impression 1913, is to determine the proportion of Fat, Casein, Albumen, and other constituents in the

LIQUID FOOD READY TO BE GIVEN TO THE INFANT.

Based on this rational standard

THE "ALLENBURYS" MILK FOODS FOR INFANTS most closely resemble Mother's Milk.

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Milk Food No. 1 From Birth to 3 Months

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A useful addition to Baby's dietary when 10 Months old and after.

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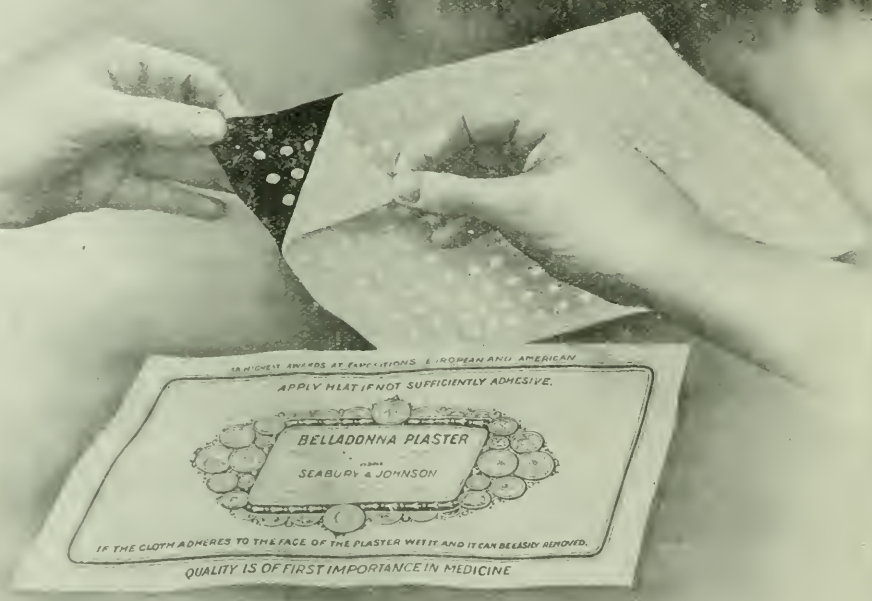
APPLY HEAT IF NOT SUFFICIENTLY ADHESIVE.
BELLADONNA PLASTER
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IF THE CLOTH ADHERES TO THE FACE OF THE PLASTER WET IT AND IT CAN BE EASILY REMOVED.
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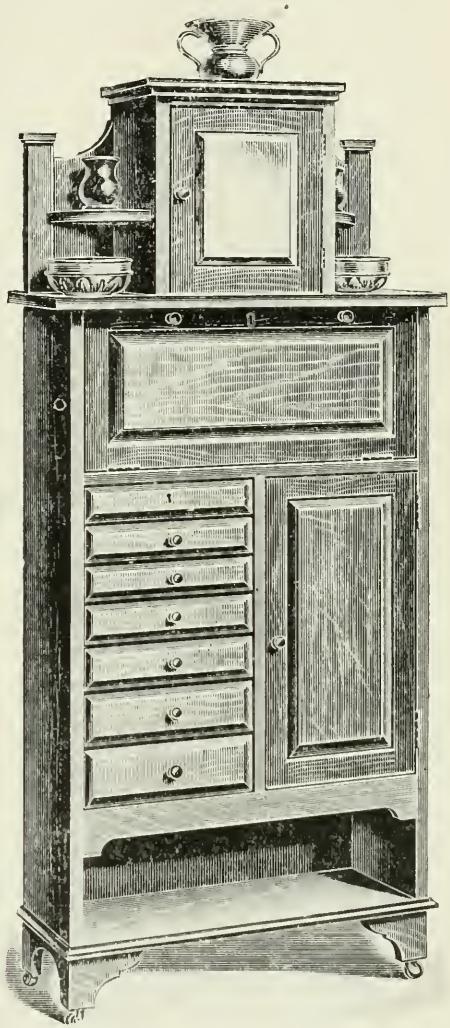

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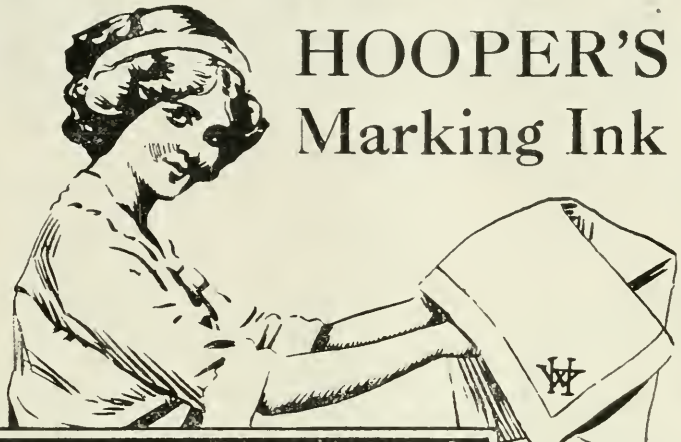

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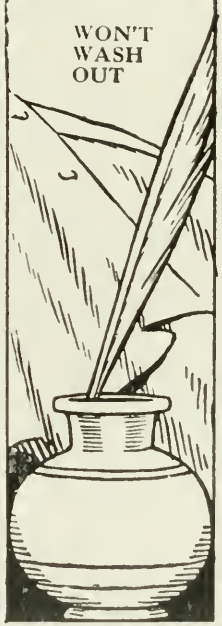

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THE AUSTRALASIAN

Journal of Pharmacy.

[REGISTERED UNDER COPYRIGHT ACT].

No. 345. SEPTEMBER 21ST, 1914. Vol. XXIX.

Articles.

"The War and Australian Chemicals."

By E. F. Lipsham, Adelaide.

The present war has dislocated trade already, but the greatest effect will not be noticeable in Australia until the present supplies have run out.

Germany has risen to her present martial strength by her increasing commercial activities, her manufactured products being known all over the world; in many instances they are superior in finish and detail to those of other countries. This superiority is more noticeable in the chemical trade than any other, in two branches of which, Synthetics and Rare Chemicals, she has no rival.

This state of affairs appears to be due to two factors:—

(1) Government assistance.
(2) Natural resources.

The Government aid can be divided into two classes—

(*a*) Concessions to firms.
(*b*) Monetary assistance to individuals.

Government Assistance.

Concessions to firms consists of free or nominal carriage from inland manufacturing towns to the seaboard on goods for export to the colonies of foreign countries.

In British countries the duties on alcohol are very high; in Germany they have free spirit, and can thus produce chemicals such as ether and chloroform at a price with which an English firm cannot compete.

This also affects perfumes and oils, which are purified by alcohol.

Individuals benefit by a compulsory system of primary and secondary education, and thus reap a greater advantage from the universities which receive considerable financial assistance from the Government.

Specialisation is encouraged, and an expert receives greater recognition than in any other country, and is given facilities by the Government and private manufacturers to experiment.

This policy results in the production of the Rarer Chemicals and Synthetics, such as Veronal, Aspirin, Antipyrine, etc., and masses up vast quantities of mere experimental data, which, I am told in the engineering trade, they do not carry further, but leave it to be finalised by the English into commercial value.

Private firms are thus saved first costs by free alcohol, and free or partially free experimental work; the result is that their chemical products are first in price and quality.

Natural Resources.

They are large and varied. The one of greatest importance to chemistry is the saline deposit at Stassfurt, near Magdeburg, in the Prussian province of Saxony. This deposit has been formed by the gradual evaporation of a vast inland sea; the evaporation must have been gradual, as the various salts are found in layers in a highly purified condition, having crystallised out in the order of their solubilities. Below these layers there is a vast deposit of ordinary rock-salt (Sodium Chloride).

The name Abraum Salts has been given to these deposits; they are highly valued as artificial manures, and are the source of many chemicals. They consist of—

Stassfurthite, which is a mixture of chloride and borate of magnesium, and averages 11 per cent. magnesium chloride, 87.5 per cent. magnesium borate, and 1.5 per cent. of water. This compound is peculiar to the locality, and occurs in the greatest quantities.

Carnallite. A double salt of magnesium and potassium with the formula $KCl, MgCl_2 6H_2O$.

Kainite—K_2SO_4, $MgSO_4$, $MgCl_2 6H_2O$.

Boracite—$2Mg_3B_8O_{15}$, $MgCl_2 + CaB_2O_4$

Practically pure Potassium Sulphate and Chloride, also Magnesium Sulphate, are found. The mother-liquors obtained in purifying these salts contain Magnesium Bromide, from which all the bromides of commerce are derived.

These salts are separated and purified, and by interaction with the rock salt and the sodium nitrate found in Chili, the corresponding sodium salts of the acid radicals are produced.

These natural resources provide a great industry, which supports and makes commercially possible the production of other chemicals in general use, and it would seem that if Germany is split up between the nations at the end of the war, the one receiving the Stassfurt deposits will naturally become the producer of the world's chemicals, provided that the progressive methods of Germany in the past are continued.

The Position in Australia.

Having briefly reviewed the causes of Germany's rise, let us see how we in Australia stand in comparison, and the possibility of our getting our fair share of the future trade.

Carriage of Goods.—No preferential tariff.

Alcohol.—A prohibitive duty is levied, and also on the products from it, also the Distillation Act is a source of annoyance, as all stills have to be licensed and open for inspection at all times. Heavy penalties are provided for having possession of any apparatus capable of being used for the distillation of whisky; no provision is made for the experimentalist or chemist desirous of making some Spt. Ether. Nit or Spt. Ammon. Arom. with a glass flask or condenser capable of producing about half a pint an hour, a quantity quite insufficient to compensate for the personal risk, let alone monetary profit.

As regards individual benefits, we have good compulsory primary schools, but our secondary institutions are optional.

South Australia has this year provided a free preparatory technical course at the School of Mines, but we have no provision for putting to some practical use the dormant faculties thus awakened. A man having passed the necessary examinations to become a pharmaceutical or analytical chemist must earn his livelihood by selling three-

pennyworths of "stuff," with no time to spare for increasing his knowledge of the drugs he handles, or in the other case, take a position as analyst on a mine, and do a certain class of work all day and every day.

Many of our best men are working at silver or copper routine assays who in Germany receive opportunities for individual research.

Australian Natural Resources.

Australia has been described as the mineral storehouse of the world. Much has already been worked; to give a few possibilities among the "heavy chemicals," viz., those used in large quantities:—

Carbonate of Soda.—This is made entirely from common salt, by three different processes—the Leblanc, the Ammonia-Soda, and also an Electrolytic process. Apparently the second one is the one most suited to Australian conditions.

Caustic Soda.—This is also prepared from salt, being mainly produced by English manufacturers. For chemical analysis the Germans make a line "Pure by Alcohol."

White Lead and *Lead Acetate.*—We export the metallic lead for making these, and import the finished article.

Cream of Tartar and *Tartaric Acid.*—The crude material for making these is a bye-product of the wine-making industry.

Potash.—The greatest quantity of the world's supply is made from Stassfurt deposits, but there are other sources which are open to Australia. In Russia and North America large quantities are made by burning waste wood, lixivating the ashes, and evaporating off the water, when crude Potassium Carbonate is formed. Another source is from wool. In some places where the wool is washed, in removing the lanolin the waters are evaporated to dryness and the deposits subjected to dry distillation, the residue lixivated and crude potash is dissolved out.

Potassium also occurs in sea water as KCl and K_2SO_4; one litre contains 0.5 — 0.7 grammes of the element.

Arsenic, Bluestone and *Acetic Acid* are made to a certain extent, but quantities are also imported.

Glacial Acetic Acid and *Absolute Alcohol.*—Although we produce the weaker strengths of these, we have to import the full strength chemicals.

A great factor in the production of Australian chemicals will be the breaking down of local prejudice. This prejudice will remain an impediment to progress until Australian manufacturers will offer to the consumers articles of equal quality to those from Europe at the same price; at present many of the lines offered are inferior in many respects.

The causes of inferiority are mainly due to slight imperfections in methods of working, and the cost of labour making it impossible to put the articles through the number of processes necessary to make a first-class product.

The first of these can be removed by the training of experts, and the latter by a more vigorous policy of immigration.

The pharmaceutical chemists can help their country in many ways, but their influence as a profession will be put to the greatest use if, by their combined voice, through the various State Pharmaceutical Societies, they make strong and continued representation to the Commonwealth Government to abolish the excise duties on alcohol for industrial uses.

Great Britain and the War.

According to cablegrams published on September 21st, the British Medical Association and Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain have arranged with the Government to give free medical attendance with medicine and appliances to the dependants of soldiers and sailors serving with the colors. The Prince of Wales's fund will defray the cost of medicine and appliances, and doctors and pharmacists will give their services free.

The "Lancet" has called attention to the growing scarcity of important drugs owing to the war. The prices of drugs, it states, has advanced since the war. Several British firms have begun to manufacture certain chemicals.

Many applications have been made to the British courts to void or suspend German patents.

The Australasian
Journal of Pharmacy
with which is incorporated
The Australasian Chemist and Druggist.

Published on the 20th of each Month
BY THE
PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY OF AUSTRALASIA

The Official Organ of Pharmacy in the Australian States. Devoted to the advancement of Pharmaceutical knowledge, and to the advocacy of a more thorough education and practical training for all persons engaged in preparing and dispensing medicines, drugs, and chemicals. Issued gratis to the members of the Pharmaceutical Society of Australasia and the Pharmaceutical Defence Limited in

VICTORIA, NEW SOUTH WALES, NEW ZEALAND, QUEENSLAND, SOUTH AUSTRALIA, TASMANIA, WESTERN AUSTRALIA, FIJI,

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Editorial.

Australian Poisoning Statistics.

The Commonwealth Statistician (Mr. G. H. Knibbs) has issued the figures relating to death from poisoning in Australia during the year 1913. It will be remembered that when the corresponding returns for the previous year were issued we commented on the fact that in those States where the Poisons Act was weakest the largest number of poisoning fatalities occurred. During 1913, however, the position in New South Wales (the worst State in 1912) appreciably improved in common with increased activity on the part of the Pharmacy Board in administering a somewhat weak Act, whereas in Victoria (which stood out well in 1912) the figures rose considerably, attributable to some extent to greater mortality from non-scheduled poisons. Western Australia, South Australia and Queensland have increased their mortality rates, while Tasmania has dropped from four cases in 1912 to two in 1913. The figures are as follows:—

State.	Suicides by Poisons.	Other Poisonings.	Total 1913.	Total 1912.
N.S. Wales ..	89	28	117	131
Victoria	56	15	71	51
Queensland ..	27	17	44	36
S. Australia .	11	8	19	13
W. Australia .	19	11	30	19
Tasmania .. .	1	1	2	4
Commonwealth	203	80	283	254

There were altogether 647 cases of suicides during 1913, as against 960 in 1912. Of these, firearms accounted for 162, poisons 203, cutting instruments 92, and hanging and strangulation 101. On a population basis the States compared as follows:—Tasmania, one fatal case of poisoning for each 97,993 of population; South Australia, one for each 22,820; Victoria, one for each 19,622; Queensland, one for each 15,537; New South Wales, one for each 15,455, and Western Australia, one for each 10,467.

The periodicity of suicides by poisoning is revealed in the following table:—

	Deaths.		Deaths.
January	21	July	24
February	22	August	8
March	20	September	11
April	20	October	13
May	19	November	21
June	11	December	16

Little can be deduced from these figures except that during the summer months poisoning fatalities are more numerous. This fact was even more pronounced in 1912 than in 1913.

Turning to the classification of the 203 cases of suicide, Mr. Knibbs' figures show that 127 of these were males and 76 females. The males were divided amongst the following callings:—

Industrial	42	Primary	17
Mercantile	22	Professional ..	15
Transport	17	Domestic	8
		Indefinite	6

In the age table the fact is revealed that the greatest proportion of suicides from

poisons occurs in the case of males between the ages of 40 to 54, and in the case of females from 20 to 34 and from 40 to 49. The ages range from 10 to 79, one female case being recorded between the age of 10-14, and one male case between the ages of 75-79.

Figures are not given showing the class of poisons used. This information would be of great service in checking the value of poisons legislation. In Great Britain the annual report of the Registrar-General contains complete details of the various poisons used, and, as the Commonwealth Statistician evidently has access to copies of coroners' verdicts, it should not be a difficult matter to include this information in the annual returns. Without it, it is not possible to say whether fatalities from scheduled poisons are decreasing or otherwise. Certainly the newspaper reports reveal an increased number of deaths from non-scheduled poisons, but, without the official figures, the opinion cannot be hazarded whether these are more numerous now than, say, ten years ago.

But, even if the official figures did indicate an increase in deaths from scheduled poisons, this fact would not discount the value of restricting the sale of poisons to qualified persons. Every pharmacist knows of cases where would-be suicides have had their intention frustrated by the necessity of having to go through certain formalities before obtaining poison. In other suspicious cases the giving of a harmless powder instead of the deadly poison asked for has brought the tired-of-life-for-the-moment person round the next morning for a tonic to brighten him up to start the battle of life afresh. Those who can speak with authority know that many lives are saved annually by the care and caution of the individual pharmacist, and this is a fact which should be recognised when dealing with this subject.

Many more lives would be saved if private persons were more careful in the custody of poison. A perusal of the police reports shows that quite frequently fatalities occur because of the accessibility of a deadly poison "on a shelf in the cupboard," or "on the kitchen mantelpiece," or "near the medicine chest." Possibly a few prose-

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cutions for careless custody of poisons might have a good effect in this direction.

Pharmacists could also assist in impressing on their customers the need for every care being exercised in putting the poison away in a safe and secure place.

Another grave evil is the large list of poisons which the Legislature has exempted from the provisions of the Poisons Acts, on the grounds that to restrict their sale might interfere with trade. It was a pleasure to hear the Victorian Chief Secretary (Mr. Murray) say, when speaking on the Amending Poisons Bill recently in the Legislative Assembly, that where human life was at stake no trade consideration should induce the House to lessen the stringency of any of the precautions which it was thought were necessary. Have not pharmacists in the past been too complaisant in permitting these exemptions to creep into the various Poisons Acts? It looks as if a truer appreciation is being displayed of the good work the Pharmacy Boards are doing in the interests of the community generally, and it rests with the pharmacists of every State to take advantage of this feeling, and to see that no further weakening of poisons legislation takes place without a very firm protest being made as to the gravity of further increasing the ample facilities for obtaining poison which at present exist.

The Month.

Consolidation of Statutes.

The Victorian Legislative Assembly on September 3, on the motion of the Attorney-General, discussed a Bill to consolidate the Statutes. Mr. Mackinnon said that the present consolidation consisted of 146 Bills, representing some 600 Acts of Parliament. These had been consolidated by Mr. Justice Cussen, to whom the Attorney-General paid a high tribute for his able, disinterested and painstaking labours in connection with the task of consolidating such a vast number of complex Acts. After some discussion, the Bills were read a second time and referred to a Select Committee, which will present its report to Parliament at a later date. Included in the consolidation are the Medical and Poisons Acts. It is not considered likely that the consolidated Statutes will be passed until early in 1915. Any Bills passed during the present session will be incorporated in the consolidation.

The Necessity for Organisation.

Victorian pharmacists have reason to appreciate the prompt action of their leaders in connection with a proposed amendment of the Friendly Societies Bill which came before the Legislative Assembly at the end of last month. Unexpectedly, a move was made to introduce a clause which would have allowed U.F.S. Dispensaries the right to keep *open shop* for the sale of medicines and chemists' sundries to the *public*. Immediately this became known representations were made to the Chief Secretary, who consented to hold the Bill over until an opportunity was given to pharmacists to state their case against the amendment. A meeting was then hurriedly called, and arrangements were made for interviewing members, with the result that the amendment was withdrawn.

This is a very brief outline of what occurred, but it gives little indication of the large amount of work which required to be immediately undertaken, and which fortunately was productive of such good results. Had pharmacists not been well organised the clause would probably have slipped through with disastrous results to Victorian pharmacy generally. As it was, the Ministry and private members had only to be apprised of the true state of affairs to realise that an injustice would have been perpetrated had the amendment been carried. Every pharmacist in Victoria has benefited by the work which has been done, yet there are those who are so unmindful of service rendered, so neglectful of their own interests, and so ungrateful for the work which is being done, that they grudge the guinea or two per annum necessary to carry on the organisations formed to look after their welfare. Burying their heads in the sand like the ostrich, they are oblivious to the dangers which assail them, deaf to the call of loyalty to the craft, and content to let others do the work and contribute towards the expense. Such an atti-

tude is distinctly disloyal and unfair, and if persisted in by the great body of pharmacists could only have one result—disaster.

The Dispensary Question.

In 1907, when the Friendly Society Dispensaries secured the right to sell "medicines and medical and surgical appliances" to their members, Parliament, after a long debate, came to the conclusion that this was as far as it could allow these bodies to go, and an amendment to allow selling to the public was negatived by a large majority. Since then two or three conferences have been held with the dispensaries' association, and at each of them the various delegates expressed themselves as opposed to any extension of their powers in the direction of selling to the public, or trenching further on the rights and privileges of pharmacists. It therefore came as a great surprise to learn that an attempt was made last month to re-open the question. Pharmacists could hardly believe that after the assurances given by the leading societies in 1907 and by the dispensary delegates in 1913 that so grave a breach of faith had been committed as to endeavour to slip a clause of this kind through in a small machinery Bill without any notice being given. Subsequent inquiries showed that the dispensaries as a body had not endeavoured to take advantage of the situation, but that one or two individual dispensaries (which have always been restive under the present restrictions, and which are flagrant offenders so far as the sale of goods to members is concerned) endeavoured to steal a march not only on pharmacists, but also on their association.

Had the move succeeded, nothing would have remained but to organise the whole trading community to protest against this incursion of their rights. If Friendly Societies could sell soaps, brushes, perfumery, etc., to the public, why should they not sell groceries, tobacco, fancy goods, boots and drapery? What would other retail traders say if a body, protected by the State, exempt from certain stamp duties, freed from the payment of income tax, given special banking facilities, absolved from the payment of the 10/- bank charge, and guaranteed 4 per cent. interest by the Government on its surplus funds, entered into competition with them? They would protest, and rightly so.

Fortunately the great bulk of the trading community realises this, and will not be slow to act if occasion demands it. Members of Friendly Societies and the dispensaries also appreciate the unfairness which would arise under such a state of affairs, and do not seek to force the position further than it has been allowed to go. Pharmacists are now fighting for their own rights, but it will be the grocer to-morrow, the tobacconist the next day, and then the bootmaker, draper, etc., in due course. Parliament, let us hope, is not yet so blind to what is fair and right that it will deprive every pharmacist in Victoria of the charter given to him by the Medical Act, namely, that of having the sole right to own a pharmacists' business, nor is it so unjust as to subject retail traders to an insidious form of competition, State-assisted, and bolstered up by exemptions from taxation which ordinary traders have to charge against their business.

Important New Opium Proclamation.

The Governor-General, acting with the advice of the Federal Executive Council, do revoke the opium proclamation of 29th December, 1905, and proclaimed that on and after 7th September, 1914, the importation into the Commonwealth of raw opium and prepared opium, as hereinafter defined, is prohibited absolutely, and that the importation of—

Medicinal Opium, Morphine, Cocaine, and Heroine, as hereafter defined;
The salts of Morphine;
The salts of Cocaine;
The salts and preparations of Heroine which contain more than 0.1 per centum of Heroine;
All preparations (officinal and non-officinal, including remedies which are advertised as anti-opium remedies) which contain more than 0.2 per centum of Morphine, or more than 0.1 per centum of Cocaine; and
All new derivatives of Morphine or of Cocaine, or their respective salts, and every other alkaloid of Opium

which may be shown by scientific research, generally recognised, to be liable to similar abuse and productive of like ill-effects

is prohibited, unless imported by persons licensed by the Collector of Customs in accordance with this proclamation, and subject to the following conditions and restrictions:—

1. The goods in question shall be imported for medicinal purposes only.

2. A licence to import the goods in question may be granted by the Collector of Customs for a State to any legally qualified medical practitioner or person lawfully carrying on business as a wholesale or manufacturing chemist or druggist, or pharmaceutical chemist.

3. A licence to import the goods in question shall be for a period of one year, and may be renewed from time to time for a like period, and may be in accordance with the following form:—

Australian Customs Licence to import Opium, Morphine, Cocaine and Heroine, and their respective Salts, Derivatives and Preparations.

This is to certify that (here set out the name, address and occupation of licensee), is licensed, for a period of one year from the date hereof, to import for medicinal purposes only—

(*a*) Medicinal Opium, Morphine, Cocaine and Heroine, as defined in this licence;

(*b*) The salts of Morphine;

(*c*) The salts of Cocaine;

(*d*) The salts and preparations of Heroine which contain more than 0.1 per centum of Heroine;

(*e*) All preparations (officinal and non-officinal, including remedies which are advertised as anti-opium remedies) which contain more than 0.2 per centum of Morphine, or more than 0.1 per centum of Cocaine; and

(*f*) All new derivatives of Morphine or of Cocaine or their respective salts, and every other alkaloid of Opium which may be shown by scientific research, generally recognised, to be liable to similar abuse and productive of like ill-effects.

Nothing in this licence shall be held to entitle the holder to import raw Opium or prepared Opium as defined in this licence.

This licence may be renewed from time to time by endorsement thereon signed by the Collector.

4. Before a licence is granted the applicant must—

(*a*) give security to the satisfaction of the Collector that—

(i) All importations made by him pursuant to the licence, or any renewal thereof, will be disposed of for medicinal purposes only; and

(ii) he will record in a book, kept by him for the purpose, particulars of how and to whom they have been disposed of, and will, on demand, at all reasonable times, produce to the Collector or to any officer authorised by the Collector, the book so kept, and the balance of the importations on hand at the time when the book is produced; and

(*b*) give an undertaking, in writing, that he will be responsible for the making of reasonable inquiries as to the purpose and destination of all goods entered under the licence and subsequently sold, with a view to assuring himself that such goods are intended for medicinal use only.

The expressions "raw opium," "prepared opium," "medicinal opium," "morphine," "cocaine" and "heroine," in this my proclamation, are to have the meanings hereunder assigned to them, that is to say,

"Raw opium" means the spontaneously coagulated juice obtained from the capsules of the opium poppy, which has only been submitted to the necessary manipulations for packing and transport.

"Prepared opium" means the product of raw opium obtained by a series of special operations, especially by dissolving, boiling, roasting and fermentation, designed to transform it into an extract suitable for consumption, and includes dross and all other residues remaining when opium has been smoked.

"Medicinal opium" means raw opium which has been heated to 60 degrees centigrade, and contains not less than 10 per centum of morphine, whether or not it be powdered or granulated or mixed with indifferent materials.

"Morphine" means the principal alkaloid of opium, having the chemical formula $C_{17}H_{19}NO_3$.

"Cocaine" means the principal alkaloid of the leaves of Erythroxylon Coca, having the chemical formula $C_{17}H_{21}NO_4$.

"Heroine" means diacetyl-morphine, having the chemical formula $C_{21}H_{23}NO_5$.

The Poisons Bill.

The amendments to the Victorian Poisons Acts, which were referred to last month, have now passed through both Houses of Parliament, and accordingly have been placed on the Statute Book. It is very satisfactory to the Pharmacy Board that all of the proposals made to the Government were not only accepted by the Cabinet, but also received Parliamentary sanction. The thanks of pharmacists are due to the Chief Secretary (Mr. Murray) and the Under Secretary (Mr. Callaway) for their courtesy in connection with the formalities preceding the introduction of the Bill, and for their sympathetic consideration of the Board's suggestions, which were put forward purely in the interests of the public.

Manufacture of Australian Chemicals.

In this issue of the "Journal" Mr. E. F. Lipsham, of Adelaide, contributes an article on War and Australian Chemicals. The writer points out that Germany, up to the time of the outbreak of war, had secured a large portion of the Australian trade in chemicals. After showing the main reasons for this, Mr. Lipsham enumerates a number of chemicals which could be produced, in his opinion, locally, and he urges pharmacists as a body to assist in bringing about a healthier condition of affairs in this regard. Contributions of this nature, it is needless to say, are welcomed by an Australian journal, published in the interests of Australian pharmacists, and whilst we believe that, for certain economic reasons, the manufacture of chemicals generally, under normal conditions, and without much greater State assistance, would not be altogether a profitable venture, we agree with the writer that opportunities do exist for making a start in the direction indicated. Indeed, both in Melbourne and Sydney, we are informed that local firms are already manufacturing drugs and chemicals, and there is no doubt that, provided the labour problem could be overcome, local manufacturers would be prepared to embark much more capital in the business.

Workers Compensation Act (Victoria) 1914.

The attention of our Victorian readers is particularly drawn to the above measure, which passed the Legislature in February last. Since last issue, an announcement has been made by the Government that the Act will come into force on the 1st October. The Act is, by far, the most drastic of its kind which has so far been passed by any of the Australian Legislatures, inasmuch as it not only renders insurance compulsory on an employer, but it provides a larger amount of compensation than any other measure in existence in any of the Australian States. The maximum compensation under the Victorian Act, in the event of death or permanent disablement, is fixed at £500, as against capital sums operating in the other States of £300 or £400. Further, the weekly compensation payable to an insured employee is fixed, under the Victorian Act, at a maximum of 30/-, as against £1 in the other States. The most serious item to be considered by an employer is that insurance is compulsory, either with a company approved by the Government, or with the State Insurance Office. The rates to be charged for this particular class of insurance have not yet been fixed, but it is advisable for each of our readers who employs labour of any sort whatsoever to immediately obtain cover in respect of his liability. The members of "Pharmaceutical Defence Limited" in Victoria, have been notified by circular that satisfactory arrangements with regard to the insurance of its members have been made through the Melbourne Fire Offi Ltd.

War Notes.

Insurance Prices Affected.

At the August meeting of the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, the President referred to the probable effect of the political position in Europe upon the price of certain drugs mentioned in the Tariff, and it was recommended that a letter be sent to the Commission pointing out these possibilities and submitting that provision should be made to meet the difficulties likely to be occasioned.

German-American Pharmaceutical Association.

There was no news up to August 7 of the German-American Pharmaceutical Association (Deutscher-Apotheker-Verein von Amerika) which left New York at the end of June. The party, which numbered about 200 persons, included many exceedingly prominent American pharmacists with their families and friends. They were enthusiastically received by various pharmaceutical associations in Switzerland and Germany, and they had arranged to leave the latter country for Paris on August 3 or 4, where a further reception awaited them.

The War and the Drug Trade.

Pharmaceutical Journal, 8/8/14.

The blow has fallen! A general European war is in full progress, in which Great Britain has been compelled to take part. The immediate effects on the Stock Exchanges and money markets of the world have been tremendous, culminating in the closing temporarily at least of the former in many different countries, as also in the total disorganisation of the latter; at home August Bank Holiday has been extended for three additional days, a moratorium being proclaimed in England with respect to bills of exchange and other monetary obligations. Furthermore, the Bank rate has been advanced three times on three following days, viz., on Thursday last week, from 3 to 4 per cent., on Friday to 8 per cent., and again on Saturday last to the phenomenally high figure of 10 per cent., but on August 6 it was reduced to 6 per cent. As might have been expected, the present unparalleled state of war which exists on the Continent and on the surrounding seas, with the resulting practical total cessation of Continental traffic, as well as the grave interference with overseas traffic generally, has had the effect of seriously enhancing the values of those chemicals of which we practically draw the whole of our supplies from the Continent. This applies to articles such as antipyrine, phenacetin, salicylates, salol, acetyl-salicylic acid, formamine (hexamethylenetetramine), quinine, santonin, and potassium permangamate, as also, indeed, more or less to the whole range of German chemicals, and to very many others, for instance, bromides, carbolic acid, glycerin, iodides, opium, and its derivatives (morphine, codeine, etc.), and others. In fact, it may be taken that the value of practically every drug and chemical will be more or less affected, possibly in many cases seriously affected. So far, however, the advances do not appear to have generally exceeded more than 10 to 20 per cent. There is, moreover, the further fact to be taken into consideration that stocks of many German chemical products appear to be extremely limited, while fresh supplies from the Continent will hardly become available for some time at least. Surgical dressings appear to have advanced about 15 to 20 per cent.; it is reported that one firm which had sent an order to a mill for twenty tons of cotton wool received the reply that only five tons could be supplied, at an advance of 20 per cent. on previous price. Under these circumstances it is not surprising that the drug market has become disorganised, and that neither buyers nor sellers know what to do. This country being dependent upon the Continent for such a large proportion of its drugs, it is clear that until the war is over no further stocks of such drugs can be obtained, and therefore it has become an urgent necessity to husband the supplies already in the Kingdom. A communication has been addressed by the Secretary of the Pharmaceutical Society to the Secretaries of all the Pharmaceutical Committees requesting them to point out to the Clerks to their Insurance Committees that many medicinal products in common use are made abroad under foreign patents, and that others, such as bromides, are manufactured from raw material that does not exist in this country. Economy in the prescribing of such drugs is obviously necessary, and we have no doubt that prescribers will act accordingly. We understand that some of the wholesale houses have advised their customers that all the quotations in their lists are without engagement, but there is no evidence of any desire to charge unnecessarily high prices.

The Embargo on Anæsthetics.

At a meeting of the Council of the Victorian Branch of the B.M.A. held on September 10, Dr. A. L. Kenny reported that he had been informed that a shortage of anæsthetics in Australia may occur as the result of the embargo by the British Government on their exportation from England; he had since received a reassuring letter from the Secretary of Defence that it was not anticipated that the amount of anæsthetics taken from Australia with the Expeditionary Force would in any way inconvenience the civil population. The President was empowered to take steps to endeavour to have the embargo removed from anæsthetics and cotton goods used in surgery.

Business Conditions.

The different wholesale houses report a more normal condition of business, subject, of course, to restricted buying, but unassociated with the wild rush which took place for certain lines shortly after the declaration of war. All the houses, however, anticipate great difficulty in replenishing stocks, and forecast advances in price of all imported lines.

Mr. E. Norton Grimwade cabled to his firm from England that he expected a very great

shortage in stocks, and advised the conservation of holdings, and not to sell in large quantities. In London there was no such thing as quotations for drugs and chemicals, all prices being purely nominal. Earthenware goods had not advanced, but glassware had gone up 5 per cent. and brushware 10 per cent.

A representative of another firm said that there had not been many increases during September, but that all goods were very scarce. Everything shortly would be dearer. So far patents and proprietaries had not been advanced, but it was only a matter of a few weeks before there must be increases of from 10 to 15 per cent. on all goods arriving from Great Britain. Higher cable charges, enhanced freights and insurances and other causes would considerably increase the prime cost of imported lines.

One wholesaler anticipated that there was a growing disposition to refuse to handle German goods. Their travellers had noticed this tendency everywhere. The public was making up its mind to encourage the sale of British products.

So far as local manufacture was concerned several chemicals in large demand were now being made in Australia, but at a greatly increased price owing to expensive labour conditions.

Insect Powders, the raw materials for the manufacture of which come from Austria, have gone up in price.

Strychnine has risen 3d. per ounce in London.

Tartaric Acid is quoted at 2/9 per lb., Cream of Tartar 2/9 per lb., and Citric Acid 4/2 per lb. in London.

Pharmacists of necessity are being forced to pass this extra cost on, but realise that this will mean a restricted turnover. They are therefore keeping prices as low as possible in the hope that there may be shortly some relief. Chemists having lodges are meeting the situation by conferring with the Friendly Societies and coming to an arrangement to charge extra only for lines on which there have been advances.

Altogether the situation is not very reassuring. One correspondent says: "To compare this war with the Franco-Prussian war is like comparing a mosquito with an elephant." Another pharmacist says that only those who are blind to present and future conditions can maintain that trade is going on as usual. Optimism is a desirable thing, but facts are stronger than fancies, and it is just as well that pharmacists and other members of the community should realise that there must inevitably be a period of stress and difficulty, bringing about a lessened turnover and greatly reduced profits.

General News.

The Melbourne Branch of Lever Brothers Limited has given 3600 tablets of Lifebuoy soap to the camp at Broadmeadows. This is supplementary to 14,400 tablets given by their Sydney house.

Messrs. Martin and Pleasance, Melbourne, have forwarded a donation of £10 10s. to the Lord Mayor's Patriotic Fund.

Mr. C. J. Zeibell, Fitzroy, has forwarded £2 2s. to the British Red Cross Fund in the name of the Pharmaceutical Society.

Mr. Oscar Lawson, pharmacist, of Fitzroy, has joined the Second Expeditionary Force. Dr. J. A. Smeal, a pharmacist who subsequently qualified as a doctor, will also be a member of the contingent.

Victoria.

Pharmacy Board of Victoria.

The monthly meeting of the Pharmacy Board of Victoria was held on September 9.

Present—The President (Mr. C. E. Towl), in the chair, and Messrs. Bailey, Buckhurst, Fleay, Jewkes and Sayer.

Correspondence.

Letters outwards (Nos. 568 to 611) were minuted and included the following:—

Crown Law Department, intimating that the Board had no power to place Lysol in Part I. of the second schedule to the Poisons Act.

Victorian Merchants' Association, explaining the position with regard to the sale of proprietary medicines containing poison.

Chief Secretary, forwarding memorandum re Amending Poisons Bill.

Letters Inwards.

A country pharmacist wrote, asking if Pitt's wheat could be sold by unqualified persons. To be informed that if sparrows or starlings had been proclaimed vermin in his district, poisoned wheat could be sold under the same conditions as rabbit poison. The writer also urged that the sale of all medicines should be confined to pharmacists.

An inquiry was made as to whether the presence of calomel in a proprietary soothing powder brought this preparation within the scope of the Poisons Act. A reply to the contrary was sent.

Ballarat Chemists' Association wrote, thanking the Board for the honour accorded to Ballarat by the Board holding its July meeting there.

Mr. Andre Narik wrote, asking if his absence with the Overseas Expeditionary Force would invalidate his indentures of apprenticeship. To be informed that the Board was pleased under the circumstances to grant him permission to break the continuity of his indentures, provided that the time he was absent was made up on his return so that the full term of four years was actually served.

Mr. Henry Thomas, Croydon, Queensland, applied for a duplicate registration certificate. To be informed that the Board did not issue duplicate diplomas. Registrar to forward typewritten certification of his registration.

Mr. H. Retchford, Casterton, wrote, stating that through the courtesy of Miss Henty, Merino Downs station, he had in his possession an historic medicine chest, which was the property of her late father, Mr. Francis Henty, and which might be regarded as the first Victorian pharmacy. This chest, Miss Henty, at his suggestion, had been pleased to offer to the Board as a relic of the early pioneering days. Resolved that the offer

be gratefully accepted, and that Mr. Retchford be asked to forward the chest for formal acceptance at the next meeting.

Victorian Merchants' Association, thanking the Board for the information contained with regard to the sale of wholesale merchants of proprietary medicines containing poisons, and stating that each member of the Association was being supplied with a copy of the Board's letter.

Mr. D. A. Simpson, Loch, brought under notice an alleged breach of the Poisons Act, and asked that the police should be instructed to caution the offenders.

Attention was drawn to an advertisement by a registered dentist in the country, that he was the agent for Hulle's strychnine, which he could supply at 2s. 8d. per ounce. Registrar was instructed to bring the matter under the notice of the local police and also the Dental Board.

A report was received from the inspector that he had investigated a complaint at Heathcote, and had found that the storekeeper referred to had (since the series of prosecutions instituted by the Board) "disposed of all his stock of proprietary medicines containing poison, and had no intention of restocking same. A search of the stock failed to disclose any article the sale of which would be a breach of the Poisons Act."

It was intimated that Mr. Charles Morley, a registered pharmacist, was accompanying the Overseas Expeditionary Force as Quarter-master of the A.M. Corps. The President suggested that a letter to Captain Morley, conveying the Board's appreciation of his patriotism, might be sent. Suggestion approved.

Formal Business.

A certificate of identity for reciprocity purposes was issued to Howard B. Parker, 161 Oxford-street, Sydney.

The apprenticeship indenture of Frederick Cheshire, junior, to Mr. A. R. Bailey, Malvern, was registered.

Poisons licenses were granted to Frederick Leake, Jumbunna, and J. L. Wilson, Thorpdale.

The name of Arthur Ward, 49 Hoddle-street, Abbotsford, deceased, was erased from the Register.

Only one case of poisoning (Lysol) was reported by the police.

The police forwarded a report on the conditions under which arsenic was stored at the pyrites works at Sebastopol. The report stated that the crude arsenic was stored in an iron house; refined arsenic was kept in iron drums in brick and iron house. Arsenic was not sold or given to employees or other persons. The only exception to this was a wholesale transaction with a Melbourne firm, who purchased arsenic by the ton.

The September Examination.

The following report from the Preliminary Examiner was received and adopted:—

Examination held at Melbourne, Ballarat, Bendigo, Bairnsdale, Kyneton, and Warrnambool on September 1 and 2. Twenty candidates entered. The following passed:—Mary Mowat, Vera Curnow, N. C. Simpson, Dorothy F. Keating, D. L. Nuttall, H. A. Braithwaite, Kathleen McGlashan. Eligible for single subjects, Latin and Euclid—J. V. Martin, E. J. Plaisted; Latin only, S. E. Featherstone.

The Final Examination not being completed, the examiners' reports were referred to a committee to meet on 16th inst.

Amending Poisons Bill.

Registrar reported that this Bill had passed the Legislative Assembly with one or two additional amendments recommended by the Board. The President said that the Government had met the Board very courteously and considerately with regard to this Bill. The Chief Secretary (Mr. Murray) had in every possible way facilitated its progress, and had paid a high compliment to the Board during the debate in the House. He (the President) also desired to acknowledge the valuable work the Registrar had done in connection with the Bill since it was first discussed. Mr. Bailey said that the amendments to the Act greatly strengthened the hands of the Board, and he was very pleased to learn that the measure had been so far advanced without material opposition.

Consolidation of Statutes.

It was reported that the Consolidated Medical Act and Poisons Act were now before Parliament. The President said that it was hoped to have the amending Poisons Bill included in the consolidation. It was also resolved to endeavour to secure the insertion of the revised second schedule adopted by the Board last year in lieu of the present second schedule to the Poisons Act.

Friendly Societies Bill.

The President said that as soon as it became known that an attempt was being made to override the Medical Act, Part III., by permitting Friendly Society Dispensaries to sell to the public, he, together with other members of the Board and the Registrar, conferred with the Premier, and pointed out the disabilities under which pharmacists would labor were such an amendment carried. He was glad to say that upon representations being made in the proper quarter the proposal was abandoned.

General Business.

The Hon. Treasurer (Mr Bailey) submitted the monthly financial statement, and after other routine business had been dealt with the Board adjourned.

Pharmaceutical Society of Australasia.

The monthly meeting of the Council was held at the College of Pharmacy, Melbourne, on September 2.

Present—The President (Mr. A. R. Bailey) in the chair, and Messrs. Cossar, Francis, Gabriel, Imes, Kernot, Owen, Pickford, Rankin, and Taylor. An apology for non-attendance was received from Mr. Leete.

Correspondence.

Mr. Turner, lecturer in Materia Medica, asked for the Council's approval of his delivering a few extra lectures to the students on Wednesday mornings after the Botany lecture on the organic

derivatives used in pharmacy. Resolved that Mr. Turner's offer be accepted with thanks.

Mr. D. A. Simpson, Loch, applied to have his name placed on the honorary members' list. Mr. Owen said that Mr. Simpson was an old member of the Society. He was treasurer for three years, and for nine years occupied a seat at the Council table. He had pleasure in moving his election as an honorary member. Mr. Rankin seconded, and the motion was carried.

Secretary Metropolitan Association wrote, asking the Council to co-operate in endeavouring to secure a lower excise duty on spirit used for pharmaceutical manufacturing purposes. Resolved that Messrs. Bailey, Francis and Rankin be deputed to represent the Council, and to give evidence, if necessary, before the Interstate Commission.

Chief Inspector of Factories intimated that a Friendly Societies' Dispensary which sold goods to its members would be included in any regulation under the Factories Act in reference to the compulsory closing of pharmacies for a weekly half-holiday.

Mr. M. Rushton, Hobart, expressed the thanks of the committee of the Tritton fund for the Society's donation of £10 10s.

Dr. Sidney Plowman replied accepting the position of lecturer in Practical Pharmacy to third year medical students.

Dr. F. Hobill Cole wrote, expressing his appreciation of the Council's good wishes and the kind sentiments conveyed to him in reference to his work at the College.

Mr. E. Merck, Darmstadt, under date July 29, wrote stating that he could now supply at customer's special request, and without extra charge, ether, colored green, and chloroform, colored red, as suggested by Dr. P. F. Barton in the "Lancet" of July 4.

Election of New Member.

Mr. John A. E. Crawford, Clarendon-street, South Melbourne, was balloted for and elected a member.

Pharmacists and the Expeditionary Force.

It was resolved that a letter be written to the pharmacists and assistants who had been accepted as members of the Overseas Expeditionary Force, expressing the Council's appreciation of their patriotism and wishing them every success and a safe return to their native land. The question of tendering a farewell was discussed, but owing to the limited leave allowed it was found that suitable arrangements could not be made, and the proposal was reluctantly abandoned. The Vice-President (Mr. Cossar) undertook to see Mr. Tonkin at the camp and convey the Council's best wishes to him and the other students accompanying the force.

Class in First Aid.

Mr. F. C. Wittmann, c/o Messrs. Bowen and Co., Collins-street, Melbourne, on behalf of a number of students, wrote asking the Council to provide facilities for a class in First Aid. It was resolved to approve of the formation of such a class under the auspices of the St. John Ambulance Association, and to provide a room at the College for the purpose of holding the class.

Offer to Defence Department.

The President stated that after consulting with members of the Council, he had offered the College to the Defence Department as a central depot for the mobilization of pharmacists and dispensers connected with the A.M. Corps, and had stated that the Council would be most willing to render any assistance it could to the Department. A reply had since been received expressing the great appreciation of the Minister at the generous and patriotic offer.

Increase in Price of Drugs.

Attention was drawn to the increases recently made in the wholesale prices of drugs and chemicals, and the question was discussed as to whether the Council should take any united action with regard to the matter. After discussion it was decided that, so far as retail prices were concerned, the different local associations were the best bodies to decide what advances were necessary, but that if at any time it was considered desirable to take united action, the Council would be pleased to co-operate in the best interests of pharmacists generally.

Friendly Societies Bill.

It was reported that a proposal to amend the Friendly Societies Act in the direction of allowing U.F.S. dispensaries to sell to the public was brought before the Legislative Assembly during the month. The President said that immediately this proposal became known steps were taken to explain the position to the Government and members of Parliament. A meeting had been held on the previous day, at which Messrs. Buckhurst, Lee, Gabriel, the Secretary and himself were present, and during the afternoon and evening a number of members of Parliament were interviewed, with satisfactory results. A large amount of work had been done, and he was hopeful that this most unjust proposal would be negatived.

The Patriotic Fund.

Mr. Owen moved that the sum of £25 be forwarded to the Lord Mayor as a donation from the Society to the Patriotic Fund. He felt that this would receive the endorsement of every member, and was sorry they could not afford to increase the amount. Mr. Cossar seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously. The President said that he had considered the desirability of asking pharmacists generally to contribute to the fund, but as a large number had subscribed to local funds and had given donations of goods, and as they were bound to suffer more severely than other traders by reason of the war, he did not feel justified in making a general call on them. Other members endorsed this view, and the President's action was approved.

The Library.

Bennett's Latin Grammar and Pharmaceutical Formulas, 8th edition, were added to the library.

The Hon. Treasurer submitted the monthly financial statement. Accounts were passed for payment, and the meeting adjourned.

Poisons Acts Amendment Bill.

Legislative Assembly, 20th August.

On the Order of the Day for resuming the debate (adjourned from August 13) on the motion of Mr. Murray (Chief Secretary) for the second reading of this Bill.

Mr. Elmslie said: I do not propose to offer any remarks at the second reading stage of this Bill. On examination of the Bill I find that there is nothing in it to object to.

The motion for the second reading of the Bill was agreed to.

The Bill was then read a second time, and committed.

Clauses 1 to 4 were agreed to.

Clause 5, providing, inter alia—

(1) The Governor in Council, on the recommendation of the Pharmacy Board of Victoria, may, by proclamation in the *Government Gazette*, amend the schedule to this Act by adding thereto any substance or preparation, and such schedule, so amended, shall have the same force and effect as if such amendment had been enacted in this Act.

Mr. Murray (Chief Secretary): I move—

"That the words 'or removing therefrom' be inserted after the word 'thereto.'"

This clause gives power to add to the schedule to the Bill, but it does not give power to remove an article from it. We might want to remove an article from the schedule to this Bill, and put it in the schedule to the principal Act.

The amendment was agreed to, and the clause, as amended, was adopted.

Clause 6—

(1) No person shall sell by retail any substance or preparation specified in or added to the schedule to this Act—

(a) unless the bottle or other vessel, wrapper, or cover box, or case immediately containing the same is distinctly labelled with—

the name of the substance or preparation,

the words "Poisonous, not to be taken," and

the name and address of the seller; and

(b) unless such other requirements as are prescribed are complied with.

(2) (a) In the sale by retail of any such substance or preparation which is a liquid, no person shall deliver or send out the same to any person except in a bottle or other container rendered distinguishable by touch from an ordinary bottle or container.

(b) For the purposes of this section, "ordinary bottle or container" means bottle or other vessel ordinarily used as a container for any food, drink, or condiment, or for medicine for internal use.

Mr McLeod: A very important question arises here, and that is as to the meaning of "retail." Sulphuric acid, hydrochloric acid, and nitric acid are largely used in various trades. A man may purchase a carboy or large bottle in the original package. Is that wholesale or retail? Hydrochloric and nitric acid are used in connection with gold smelting, and sulphuric acid in connection with the manufacture of aerated waters and other commodities. If the purchase of a large bottle in the original packet is a retail transaction, it is very awkward for business.

Mr. Elmslie: There is another article I might mention as being used in large quantities in trade. I quite understand that the precautions to be taken are proper ones, but where a substance is used in business, and is not likely to be left about to poison people, a restriction on its purchase might make it more difficult to obtain for trade purposes.

Mr. Murray (Chief Secretary): I am informed that it is quite understood what is retail and what is wholesale, and that there have been no difficulties hitherto in connection with the commercial use of these articles. In Section 4, paragraph (g) of the principal Act we have the following provision:—

The principal Act shall not apply to the sale of—

(g) poisons by wholesale dealers, in the ordinary course of wholesale dealing, where an order in writing, signed by the purchaser, has been given for the supply of the same.

It does not apply to that case. There will be no interference in the case of the wholesale dealer. This is an amendment of the law to deal with the retailing of these poisons, and the provision in the principal Act will govern this Bill when it comes into operation. The secretary of the Pharmacy Board informs me that there is no danger of any interference with the ordinary process of trade occurring through this provision.

Mr. Elmslie: It is provided in paragraph (a) of sub-clause (2) that certain poisonous liquids are to be sold in special bottles "rendered distinguishable by touch from an ordinary bottle or container." There are certain powerful acids which have to be put into a special class of jar. Take sulphuric acid and spirits of salts. They eat very quickly into some substances. Spirits of salts are generally carried about in jars, and it seems to me that it would be unreasonable to say that spirits of salts must be contained in a special jar that will be distinguishable by touch from an ordinary jar.

Mr. Murray: That would not be a retail quantity. The provision refers to small quantities—say sixpennyworth or one shilling's worth. The object of having poisons in bottles that can be distinguished by touch from ordinary bottles is to obviate mistakes being made in the dark.

Mr. Elmslie: I offer no objection to that; but the purchase of three or four gallons of spirits of salts would be a retail transaction. A bricklayer or a tuckpointer wanting to clear off smudges of mortar on the front of a building would buy a shilling's worth of spirits of salts, which would be contained in a jar. I want to see that there is no intereference in a case of that kind. It would cause a lot of trouble in the building trades if it was provided that spirits of salts must be contained in special jars. The substance is only used in the daytime, and is kept at the place where the work is done.

Mr. Tunnecliffe: Without commenting on what the leader of the Opposition has said, it seems to me that sub-clause (2) as it stands will be entirely ineffective. I quite understand that the object is to have poisons sold in retail quantities,

put up in such bottles that ordinary people will be able to distinguish them in the dark by touch from ordinary bottles. But, unfortunately, there is no description of the form which the receptacle must take. One man may put up a poison in a round bottle; one man may put it up in a square bottle, and another in an octagonal bottle. Would it not be much better if the law laid it down clearly what shaped bottle must be used? If that were done, every one would learn by practice that a bottle of a particular shape contained poison.

Mr. Murray: Under the Bill, the Pharmacy Board have power to prescribe the shape of the bottle.

Mr. Tunnecliffe: Different patent medicine proprietors may put up their medicines in different shaped bottles. There may be twenty or thirty poisons in twenty or thirty bottles of different shapes. The following paragraph appears in the schedule:—

"All liquid preparations (containing not more than three per centum by weight of phenol) sold as carbolic or carbolic acid or carbolic substitutes or carbolic disinfectants."

There are quite a number of drugs which contain phenol. There may be 100 different poisons, and every one of them may be contained in a different shaped bottle, and the public will not be able to appreciate what is a poison bottle and what is not. If it were laid down that a poison bottle must be of octagonal shape, any one getting hold of an octagonal shaped bottle would at once realise that it contained poison. Paragraph (b) of sub-clause (2) is an attempt to define the meaning of "ordinary bottle or container." It is as follows:—

For the purposes of this section "ordinary bottle or container" means bottle or other vessel ordinarily used as a container for any food, drink, or condiment, or for medicine for internal use.

That is not a definition at all. Every kind of bottle contains food or drink of some kind or other. It appears to me that unless some definite form of bottle is prescribed, we will not get near the mark.

Mr. McLeod: Take the case of nitric acid and hydrochloric acid. A mining company may send to a chemist's for a Winchester quart of nitric acid. It seems to me that that would be a retail transaction. I am not so much impressed with the objection of the honourable member for Eaglehawk, because I think the law now prescribes that poisons must be sold in bottles of a certain shape and colour.

Mr. Warde: If a uniform shaped bottle were prescribed, every one would be educated up to the fact that a bottle of that shape contained poison.

Mr. McLeod: Where you buy an original package of hydrochloric acid or nitric acid, and the bottle contains a gallon or a couple of gallons, it is a different matter. Take the case of a mining company that sends for a Winchester quart of hydrochloric acid or nitric acid. To comply with the clause, the acid would have to be poured out of the original bottle and put into another bottle.

Mr. Murray: The Pharmacy Board, which has given a great deal of consideration to these matters, and which has had long experience of the administration of the Act, feels satisfied that this will meet the requirements of the case, and will not injuriously affect traders in any way The Board administers the law.

Mr. McLeod: Very often when prosecutions take place, the Courts construe the law in a different way from what we intended.

Mr. Snowball: The Pharmacy Board alone can prosecute.

Mr. McLeod: The Pharmacy Board do not make the law.

Mr. Murray: But the Bill is the law the Pharmacy Board desire to have passed. We may assume that they understand their business.

Mr. McLeod: The question is as to what is a wholesale transaction, and what is a retail transaction.

Mr. Murray: That is really a question of usage. The clause will not make the position any worse for mining companies at any rate.

Mr. McLeod: It will, because these restrictions do not apply at the present time.

Mr. Murray: The Pharmacy Board could apply the law very much more strictly than they do.

Mr. McLeod: As I have stated, nitric acid and hydrochloric acid are put up in ordinary Winchester quarts. Unless the sale of a Winchester quart was regarded as a wholesale transaction—

Mr. Murray: That would be a wholesale transaction.

Mr. McLeod: It would not, according to the section which the honorable gentleman read from the Act. It would be necessary to empty nitric acid, or hydrochloric acid, from the original bottle, and to put it in another bottle to comply with paragraph (a) of sub-clause (2). I am quite in agreement with adding the poisons mentioned in the schedule to the articles which are deemed poisons within the meaning of the Principal Act, so long as it is not going to hamper business. I think an exception should be made where poisons are to be used for commercial purposes. Take the case of an aerated water manufacturer. He buys sulphuric acid in a jar. He may also buy carbolic acid in a gallon jar for the purpose of cleaning out his factory, and we do not want to place difficulties in his way. The question is as to what is a wholesale transaction, and what is a retail transaction. If I were to go to an ordinary chemist, and in the ordinary way of business were to buy a Winchester quart bottle of nitric acid, would that be a wholesale transaction?

Mr. Murray: Yes, it would.

Mr. McLeod: I would like the opinion of the Attorney-General on that point.

Mr. Snowball: How would it do to insert the words "other than for use in trade or manufacture?"

Mr. McLeod: Some words of that kind would do. The distinction between wholesale and retail selling is very vague. I do not think there should be any restrictions in the way of people buying poisons for commercial purposes. I am quite in accord with the principle of putting restrictions in the way of people who may use poisons for improper purposes.

Mr. Mackey: I certainly think that some such words as were suggested by the honorable member for Brighton should be used to distinguish the terms "wholesale" and "retail." Otherwise the matter will be left to the decisions of the law courts, and we may find that we have passed a Bill with a meaning attached to it which we did not intend at all. If a person buys for himself, or on behalf of his family, or those in his house, obviously that is meant to be retail, but if a shopkeeper buys to sell it would be wholesale. I am not putting that forward as a definition, but merely pointing out one difference. The Minister should insert a definition of what is wholesale and what is retail, or, as I say, we may find that we have passed a measure which has consequences which we never intended. I agree with the honorable member for Eaglehawk that it is essential that a bottle containing poison should be one which by its shape can be readily distinguished from any other bottle. Under the existing law there are some provisions which bear on the matter and which I am not readily familiar with, but I think they should be looked up to ascertain whether they fully apply.

Mr. Murray: I have a new clause to insert.

Mr. McLeod: I would suggest that the Minister might put the Bill through Committee to-day, and before the third reading is taken consult the Attorney-General and the draftsman as to what is necessary with regard to the meaning of "retail." I do not wish to block the Bill in any way, because I am quite in accord with it.

Mr. Mackinnon (Attorney-General): What I understand is that transactions, such as those referred to by the honorable member for Daylesford, are all treated in the trade as wholesale transactions. The stuff is sold on wholesale terms. A retailer is the man who distributes the stuff among the public in appreciably small quantities. I did not hear the beginning of the discussion, but I understand that these purchases in the trade are made for the wholesale houses, and are very few.

Mr. McLeod: Take purchases made from the country chemist, who is an ordinary retailer.

Mr. Mackinnon: It would be a difficult question for the adjudicating tribunal to decide in every case whether it was a wholesale or a retail transaction. The presumption would be that where you buy from an ordinary retailer it is a retail transaction. It is probably desirable that the matter should be looked into in the way in which the honorable member suggests. With regard to poisons used for the destruction of vermin, there is a looser way of dealing with them. That is specially provided for in the Act. That would indicate that for certain trades where large quantities are necessary certain provisions should be made. It may be necessary to make elaborate provisions. However, we will look into the matter, and see whether we can make some amendment to meet the honorable member's objections.

The clause was agreed to, as were clauses 7 to 12.

Mr. Murray: I propose the insertion of the following new clause:—

In section 13 of the principal Act, after the word "poisons" the words "or as to the shape, size, and material of the jar, bottle, box, can, tin, tube, or package, in which any poisons may be sold" are hereby inserted, and the said section shall be read accordingly.

Section 13 of the principal Act is as follows:—

The Governor in Council may, on the recommendation of the Pharmacy Board of Victoria, from time to time make any regulations as to the colouring of any poisons or as to the sale or custody of the same or otherwise as to carrying into effect the objects of this Act. Such regulations, after publication in the *Government Gazette*, shall have the same force and validity as if the same formed part of this Act, and a copy of the same shall be laid before both Houses of Parliament without unnecessary delay.

The new clause will meet the desire of the honorable member for Eaglehawk. Were it a poison for vermin we would be able to do this without the addition of the new clause. I have here a small tube containing a very strong rat poison. It looks very like a tube containing toothpaste or complexion cream which ladies are familiar with. This is a very strong phosphoric poison. Were that poison made for the purpose of killing rabbits or other creatures defined as vermin under the Vermin Destruction Act, and which are provided for in the Poisons Act, we would be able to prescribe the form in which the poison should be done up. Otherwise we have no power. Therefore, we ask for that power. This new clause will give the fullest authority to the Board to prescribe for any poisons the form in which they shall be put up.

Mr. McPherson: It would not stop the importation of a tube like that which you have.

Mr. Murray: It would stop the sale, so that the stoppage of importation would follow as a matter of course.

The new clause was agreed to, as was the schedule.

The Bill was reported to the House with amendments.

In the Legislative Assembly on August 25th.

The amendments made in this Bill in Committee were considered and adopted.

On the motion of Mr. Murray (Chief Secretary), the Bill was then read a third time.

Mr. Murray (Chief Secretary): There is an amendment which I desired to propose in clause 6, which relates to the labelling, etc., of certain poisonous articles on sale. Sub-clause (2) paragraph (a) of that clause provides—

> (2) (a) In the sale by retail of any such substance or preparation which is a liquid, no person shall deliver or send out the same to any person except in a bottle or other container rendered distinguishable by touch from an ordinary bottle or container.

I move—

"That after the word 'of' (line 1) the words 'any quantity not exceeding two quarts of' be inserted.

Honorable members will recollect that when the Bill was under consideration in Committee, certain objections were taken by some honorable members who have an intimate knowledge of the mining industry, to the effect that if we passed

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1 Dozen	and under	12 Dozen	...	15s. 0d.	per	Dozen.
12 „	„	30 „	...	14s. 3d.	„	
30 „	„	60 „	...	13s. 6d.	„	

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LARGE SIZE—Under 1 gross	15/-	per dozen, less	2½	per cent.
1 gross	15/-	,,	5	,,
2½ gross	15/-	,,	10	,,
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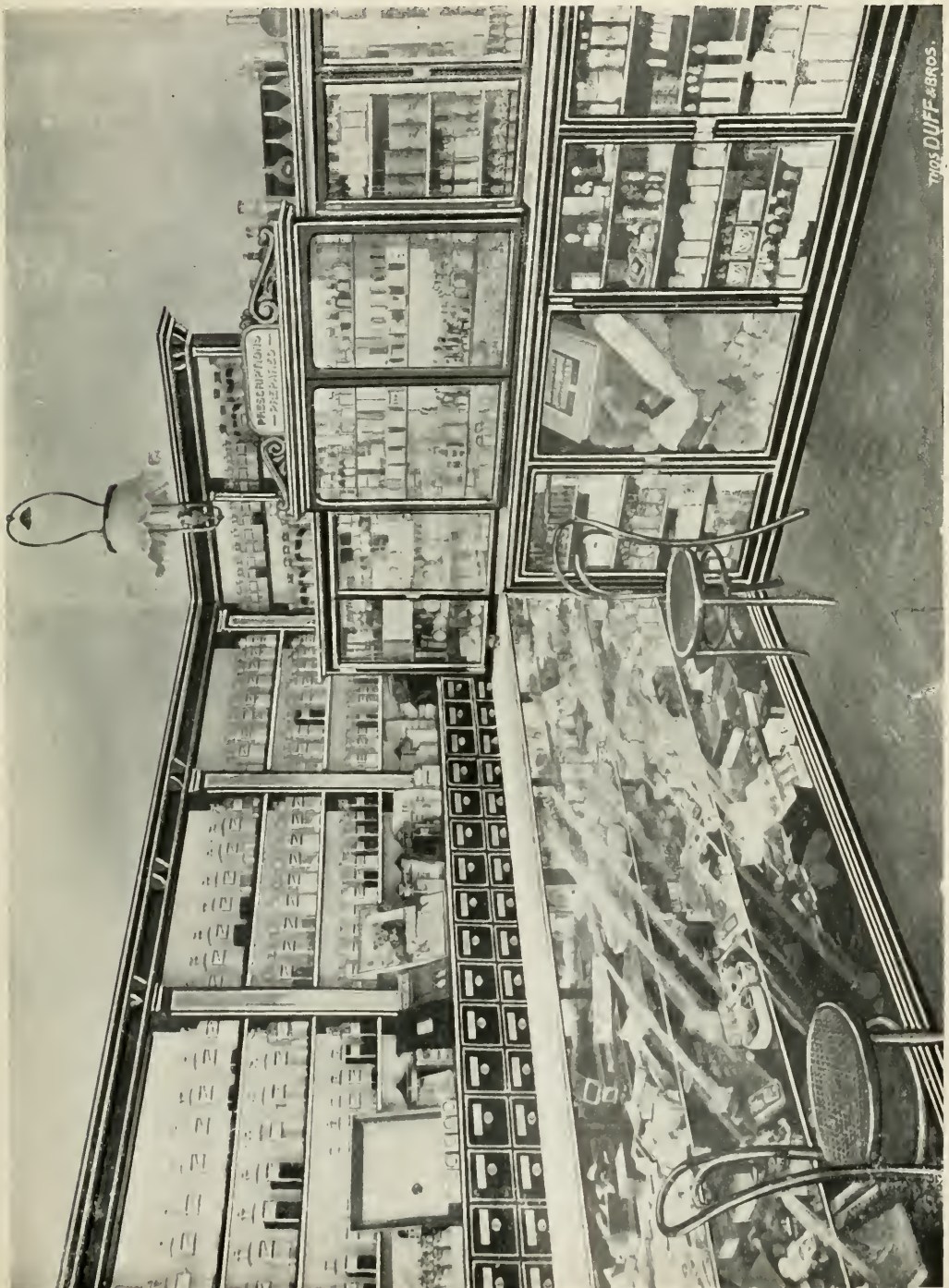

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this clause in its present form it would interfere with certain mining operations. I myself do not entertain any apprehension that this would occur. However, I have an amendment which I think will meet what honorable members desire. Before doing so, in order to make it perfectly clear what the position is in connection with the sale of poisons in other countries, I will read the following memorandum from the secretary of the Pharmacy Board—

"The points raised by Mr. Elmslie and Mr. McLeod in reference to clause 6 (2) (b) of the Poisons Act Amendment Bill have been considered, and whilst the Board is of opinion that the clause as it stands would not affect the case mentioned, it has no objection to the insertion of an amendment limiting the provisions re the use of special bottles to quantities of poisonous liquids not exceeding two quarts. The main object of the clause is to prevent the retail sale of small quantities of these industrial poisons in domestic and ordinary medicine bottles. As amended, the clause would still achieve this object, and at the same time will not interfere with artisans, mining companies, and manufacturers purchasing larger quantities for use in connection with their trade or business. Careful inquiry has been made as to the possibility of including in the Bill a definition of the word 'wholesale.' The leading authority on poison laws (W. S. Glyn-Jones), says that it is very difficult to define what constitutes 'wholesale' and 'retail.' The quantity sold at any one time cannot be said to be the only criterion for deciding whether a sale is by wholesale or retail."

This is a further explanation of the position in which wholesale dealers stand at the present time. It shows that after all, even when we pass this Bill, our legislation in regard to poisons will be less restricted than the legislation of some of the neighbouring States.

"Wholesale dealers in the ordinary course of wholesale dealing are already exempted, and the Board respectfully suggests that this provision should not be amended, as it is desirable to leave the section as elastic as possible. Usage is always taken into account in legal proceedings. The facts of any particular case must stand by themselves, and the magistrates are always in a position, after hearing the evidence, to determine whether such case comes within the exemption or not. It is noteworthy that although the Poisons Acts of Great Britain and Victoria have been in operation for many years, no difficulty has occurred in regard to wholesale transactions, and at no time have the higher Courts been asked to define the meaning of the words 'wholesale' and 'retail' in their relations to the Poisons Acts.

"The Board further desires to point out that similar provisions to those the House has been asked to approve of have been in operation in Great Britain since 1908, and have not hampered or interfered with business in any way, and that, further, in New South Wales and Western Australia strong mineral acids are included amongst the schedule of legal poisons which can only be sold by qualified persons. Not wishing to unduly interfere with trade, the Board recommended the adoption of the minimum amount of precaution, which, for the safety of the public, it considered necessary. It therefore respectfully asks that the Honorable the Minister, in placing these facts before the House, will urge the necessity of clause 6 (2) (b) being passed in the form agreed without further restricting its effect."

I think the Board perhaps has gone a little farther than it felt disposed to do in agreeing to the amendment which I now propose. Of course, the great duty of Parliament is more than anything else to protect the health and the lives of the people. When you can do so without imposing a restriction on trade, it is desirable to take that course, but I would unhesitatingly say that if there was any danger to the lives of the people, that consideration should outweigh the consideration of what might be detrimental to trade or industry. The higher consideration is the life of the people. The amendment I have proposed will, I think, meet the objections of honorable members.

The amendment was agreed to.

The Bill was then ordered to be returned to the Legislative Council, with a message intimating that the Assembly had agreed to the same with amendments, with which they desired concurrence. These amendments the Legislative Council subsequently agreed to, and the Bill was forwarded to the Governor for his assent, which was given on September 21st.

Friendly Societies Bill.

A Serious Menance to Pharmacists.

In the Legislative Assembly on August 26, a small machinery Bill to amend the Friendly Societies Act was under consideration at the second reading stage. It was a technical measure affecting the actuary and not of any interest to pharmacists. During the debate, however, Mr. Hampson, the member for Bendigo, said:—

"I think some friendly societies should have wider powers in the direction of trading with the public. I am surprised that they have asked for such a small amendment of the law as is contained in this Bill. Combinations of friendly societies are limited with reference to their trading powers with the public. They are made to conform with labour conditions, the same as ordinary chemists. As far as their trading is concerned they are confined to their own members. That is simply giving a preference to outside chemists, or placing an undue restriction on friendly societies who enter into a combination to supply their own wants."

Mr. Murray: What is the restriction.

Mr. Hampson: "They can only sell medicines to members. The friendly societies of Bendigo have about 3000 members, and they are joined together in a dispensary and medical institute. The law restricts that institute with regard to its sales to the public, and it is a restriction which I regard as unfair. In connexion with an amendment of the Friendly Societies Act I should have thought that the combined societies would have asked for something substantial in that direction. I

do not know whether the Chief Secretary has any more information about the measure, but, if not, I suppose the House will accept the assurance that it is required."

At a later stage, Mr. J. W. Billson, member for Fitzroy, said: Some time age, we had a considerable discussion in the House on account of a High Court decision against the friendly societies trading in Bendigo and Geelong, by running a public dispensary and dispensing medicine to the public. The friendly societies were very sorry about being compelled to withdraw from this kind of trading. Now we have a Bill before us in which, if there was time to consider it, a matter of this kind might be dealt with. The Bill, however, has been sprung upon the House, and I think honorable members have a right to ask for an adjournment, in order that they may frame amendments which they may desire to include in the measure—amendments which will give the friendly societies the power which they originally thought they had, and which they used illegally until the Court compelled them to cease.

After Mr. Murray had stated that he was not particularly anxious whether the Bill passed or not, Mr. Billson said that he would not ask for an adjournment, but would take the opportunity of moving his amendment that evening. Mr. Murray then moved that progress be reported.

The Bill was on the notice paper for further consideration on the following day. In the meantime representations were made to Mr. Murray, and he agreed to further postpone the Bill.

When the Bill came before the Legislative Council on September 10, Mr. McLellan asked for an adjournment, as he wished to introduce a new clause. As it was felt that this might be another move to secure full trading powers, the Minister in charge of the Bill (Mr. J. Drysdale Brown) was apprised of what had transpired in the lower House.

Subsequently Mr. McLellan circulated his amendment, which provided briefly that the dispensaries might sell to the public as trading concerns. This was regarded as so serious an interference with the rights of pharmacists, laid down in the Medical Act 1890, that it was decided to leave no stone unturned to defeat the amendment, and, if necessary, to organise the whole trading community to oppose it. Messrs. Towl, Bailey, Buckhurst, Owen and Peters, together with the Registrar, were present at the sittings of the Legislative Council on September 15, 16 and 17, and arrangements have been made to have someone in attendance at each sitting until the Bill is dealt with.

It has also been ascertained that the bulk of the dispensaries, including most of the larger ones, do not wish to enter into competition with retail traders.

Lodge Dispensing at Bendigo.

The Bendigo branch of the A.N.A. recently received a letter from Mr. D. Anderson, its dispenser, stating that unless the association granted him an increase of 1s. per member per year he would place his resignation in its hands. The association had previously offered him an increase of 6d. per member, which he refused. Subsequently Anderson's resignation was accepted without discussion, the branch refusing to grant the increase asked for, but after further consideration the increase was agreed upon.

When seen, Mr. Anderson declined to discuss the position in any way, but, in reply to a question, he said his action had nothing to do with the Medical Association. It was simply an application for better remuneration on his part, acting quite independently of any association or chemists.

From other sources, however, it was learned that the chemists in the city fully sympathised with Mr. Anderson in the action he had taken. It was considered that the members of the A.N.A. were not acquainted with the full facts of the case, and it was thought that when they knew the whole of the circumstances they would take an entirely different view.

"In the first place," said one of the leading chemists in the city, it is entirely wrong to suppose that the chemists in Bendigo have any sort of understanding with the Medical Association or any one of its members in the city. Mr. Anderson has acted entirely on his own initiative in this matter, and is not concerned with the Medical Association at all. It is the proud boast of the Bendigo branch of the A.N.A. that it is the strongest numerically and financially in the State, but in regard to the payment of fees to its dispenser it is very much below other places. The following table, showing the amount paid in other towns to dispensers, will be of interest:—

	Per Member.
Warragul	10/-
Brisbane	9/-
Rochester	8/6
Kyabram	8/6
Echuca	8/-
Melbourne suburbs	7/- to 8/-
Ballarat	6/-
Bendigo	5/-

"It is understood that the Bendigo United Friendly Societies' Dispensary allows 7/- per member for medicines. It may be pointed out that this 5/- which the A.N.A. pays for each of its members includes the provision by the dispenser of all the medicines required by a man, his wife and children, up to 18 years of age. In some cases it also includes supplies to dependents, such as a widowed mother. Some of the chemists are supplying a family of ten persons with medicines for the 'magnificent' sum of a fraction over 1d. per week. As a matter of fact, were it not for the advertisement which lodge work gives to the chemists they would be better off without it, as in many cases the remuneration does not cover the cost of drugs. The dispensing fees in Bendigo have not been raised for many years, in spite of the fact that during the past few years the price of drugs has increased fully 20 per cent., while wages and other expenses incidental to the carrying on of a business have advanced even more than this. When these facts are brought home to the members of the A.N.A., it is felt that they will see the injustice of refusing to grant this increase of 1/- per member per year."

In answer to a question as to how the alleged chemists' combine would affect Bendigo, the

chemist referred to said that there was no such thing as a "chemists' combine." What was really referred to under this heading was the P.A.T.A., or to give it its full title, the "Proprietary Articles Traders' Association." This is really a manufacturers' combination, which originally started in England over 20 years ago for the purpose of enabling manufacturers to protect their own articles. They allowed the retailer what they considered a fair margin of profit, and would not allow him to sell under that. In the majority of cases this margin was reduced to the smallest minimum. A similar body existed in New South Wales. The association was formed in Melbourne, and comprised all the leading manufacturers. Prior to the formation of this association several of the large stores would purchase a particular line of goods and sell them at practically cost price in order to attract customers. When they had done this they would drop this line of goods, and as a result the manufacturers were unable to dispose of their goods in this locality for a long time afterwards.

Chemists' Cricket Club.

ANNUAL REPORT.

Your Committee, in submitting their fifteenth annual report, have pleasure in announcing another successful season. With 44 members, the Club boasts a record membership, and bearing in mind the frequent removals of members to the country and other places, the result is more than satisfactory, and we are pleased to note the inclusion of Messrs. F. Buckhurst, D. Shaw, C. L. Butchers, in the Vice-President's list.

As in the previous season, 16 matches were played, with the result—9 won, 3 lost, 4 drawn. This is satisfactory, since the services of A. McNeel were available in two matches only. This player's absence was severely felt, as his scores of 57 and 116 for two innings prove indicative of his prowess.

A perusal of the averages shows some notable achievements—F. Mathias as a double performer, taking first place. The averages as a whole indicate an improvement, and when one remembers the formidable opponents met with, the players are to be congratulated on their performances.

The Wholesale v. Retail game provided some interesting figures, the match resulting in a win for the Retailers.

The sixth Interstate game was played at S.M.C.G., resulting in a win for the Mother State. Good performances were noted on both sides. For N.S.W., L. W. Pye and T. Green conspicuously shone in the bowling department, while much praise is due to L. Keogh and A. McNeel for the Victorians. The next game will be played in N.S.W. Much interest was centred in this year's fixture, since the cricketers were accompanied by a team of bowlers. This match was also fought at the S.M.C.G. green, with victory recorded to the locals.

The usual Portarlington match took place on the local ground, resulting in a victory for C.C.C. This outing, like its predecessor, was attended by many pharmacists and friends.

The headquarters were, as usual, at the R.C.G., and we again record our best thanks to Messrs. G. Bird and D. Capewell, hon. secretary and curator respectively, for their continued kindness.

We desire to accord our thanks to Mr. C. Pleasance for the use of rooms for Committee meetings. Four committee meetings were held, at which the following attended:—S. Fripp, junr. (President), 4; D. Shaw (Vice-President), 2; J. Champion (Vice-President), 2; F. N. Pleasance, 4; J. Fisher, 4; F. Mathias, 3; A. B. Humphreys, 1; E. Staker, 2; F. Morgan, 1; A. Vale, 2; A. Chapman, 4; C. J. Gabriel, 4.

The Treasurer announces the funds to be in a satisfactory condition, with a credit balance of £15 19s. 9d.

S. FRIPP, Junr., President.
C. J. GABRIEL, Hon. Sec.

Financial Statement, Season 1913-14

To balance from Season 1912-13	£17	3	0
Subscriptions, 44 members	11	0	0
Donations—			
Messrs. Rocke, Tompsitt and Co.	1	1	0
Messrs. Duerdin and Sainsbury	1	1	0
Mr. John Barker	1	1	0
Mr. W. H. Woodhouse	1	1	0
Mr Champion	0	10	6
Mr. C. L. Butchers	0	10	6
Mr. P. W. Merfield	0	10	6
Mr. D. Shaw	0	10	6
Mr. J. C. Pickford	0	10	0
Mr. Wasley	0	10	0
	£35	9	0
By R.C.C. Annual Subscription	£10	10	0
Expenses Annual Meeting	0	7	6
Expenses Interstate Cricket Match	5	5	0
Geo. Smith, Cricket Material	0	10	0
Collis Bros., Printing	1	2	6
Petty Expenses, Mr. Gabriel	1	14	3
Balance carried forward	15	19	9
	£35	9	0

Audited and found correct, 26/8/14.
C. L. BUTCHERS, Auditor.
F. N. PLEASANCE, Hon. Treas.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The 15th annual meeting of the above club was held at Champion's Town Hall Hotel on September 16th. There was a large attendance of members. The president, Mr. S. Fripp, junr., occupied the chair.

Election of Office-Bearers.

All the office-bearers were re-elected, the names of Mr. T. A. C. Sayle and Dr. Plowman being added to the list of vice-presidents, and Mr. W. Strachan replacing Mr. A. B. Humphreys on the committee.

The question of joining a Wednesday competition was discussed, but it was found impracticable to enter into competitive cricket.

The hon. secretary (Mr. Gabriel) reminded members that their subscriptions were now due, and to enable them to participate in the ballot for Richmond Cricket Club's tickets, subscriptions must be paid to the treasurer or secretary not later than first Wednesday in October. He said that the club was anxious for new mem-

bers, and he would be pleased to hear from those who wished to join. Practice was arranged at the Richmond Cricket Ground on September 30, at 2 o'clock, and the first match at Richmond Cricket Ground on October 7, versus Grammar School. It was decided to donate two guineas to the Lord Mayor's Patriotic Fund. The inclusion of two of the old members of the Club (Messrs. Tonkin and Narik) in the Expeditionary Force was noted with pleasure.

A cordial welcome was extended to Messrs. D. Shaw and F. Mathias, the former after a severe illness, and the latter on his return from England. The president invited Mr. Mathias to give briefly his experiences on board ship after the outbreak of war, which he did, and was much appreciated by the members.

The meeting terminated with a vote of thanks to the president and the retiring officers.

Metropolitan Chemists' Association.

City Section.

A Special Meeting of the City Section was held at Champion's Queen's Arms Hotel on Thursday, August 27, at 8.30 p.m.

Present: Messrs. Buckhurst (in the chair), Sayle, Tait, Longmore (jnr.), Murphy, White, Wasley, Atwood, Poulton, Towl, Cheshire, Merton and the Secretary.

The Chairman explained briefly why members had met. The war was already making its effects felt in business, and retail chemists were at present bearing the brunt of the increases of drugs and chemicals.

After discussion, it was agreed that nothing definite could be determined at that stage, as in a few days or weeks hence there would undoubtedly be further alterations in the prices.

It was generally considered advisable that each individual chemist should use his own discretion, especially where the price of dispensing was concerned. It was pointed out that this difficulty could be overcome by each chemist faithfully observing the marking of prescriptions.

It was moved by Mr. Buckhurst and seconded by Mr. White that the Secretary have 5,000 labels printed with the word SPIROL; that he get the word SPIROL registered in his name and keep such registration in trust for the members of this City Section.—Carried.

Further, that these labels be sold to all chemists at 1/- per hundred for them to use to introduce SPIROL tablets against ASPIRIN tablets.

Re Aspirin Tablets.—It was moved and seconded that on and after Monday, August 31st, the minimum for Aspirin tablets be 1/3, and that the minimum for Seidlitz Powders be 1/3.

The Chairman then referred to a proposal which had been made to allow U.F.S. Dispensaries to sell anything that was sold in a chemist's shop. This was a most serious matter, which the chemists would have to deal with at once. The Chairman said that the individual chemists should do their utmost to oppose the measure. He also stated that representations had already been made on the matter in the proper quarter.

A meeting of the City Section was held at Champion's Queen's Arms Hotel, Swanston-street, on September 9th, at 8.30 o'clock.

Present—Messrs. White (in the chair), Francis, Owen, Towl, Wasley, Baird, Lock, Pleasance, Poulton, Atwood, Murphy, and the Secretary. Apologies from Messrs. Buckhurst and Sayle.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. Correspondence was read and attended to. In reply to a letter received from the East Sub-Section in regard to its proposed advance in dispensing prices, it was moved by Mr. Towl, seconded by Mr. Francis, that it be a recommendation to charge 2s. 6d. for 6 oz. mixtures, instead of 2s.

Secondly, that wholesale houses be requested to send slips along with the goods bought to show the advance in prices that may have occurred on any drugs.

It was moved and seconded that Spirol Tablets be sold for 1s. The Secretary explained that the Spirol labels would be ready in a day or two.

In regard to the proposed increase in duty on proprietary and patent medicines and packed goods, it was moved and seconded that it be a recommendation to the Central Committee that this section opposes the proposed increase.

This ended the meeting.

Central Committee.

The 14th meeting of the Central Committee was held at the College of Pharmacy on Thursday, September 10.

Present—Messrs. Sayle (in chair), Bartleman, Lock, Vale, Wasley, Jones, Pickford, and the Secretary.

Minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed. The President welcomed Messrs. Jones and Pickford, of the South Suburban Section.

Correspondence was received and approved of and dealt with.

In regard to the application made for an increased duty on patent and proprietary medicines and packed goods as per item 292a, the Secretary was requested to write to the secretaries of the various sections asking them to get an expression of opinion from members on this matter.

Re application for the revision of the excise duty on spirit, the Secretary of the Pharmaceutical Society had written to say that Messrs. Bailey, G. Francis and D. Rankin had been appointed as its representatives to give evidence at the Interstate Commission.

In regard to the various opinions given by the various delegates as to the proposed increases in the price of dispensing, a discussion arose, and it was moved and seconded and carried that the dispensing prices remain as before, except where there has been an advanced price in a particular drug used; that the price charged be left to the discretion of the chemist, he not forgetting to mark the price charged on the prescription.

It was further moved and carried that the wholesale houses, in view of the uncertainty and fluctuation in the prices of goods and drugs be requested to send invoices with the goods, and, failing this, they mark any increase that may have occurred on the delivery sheet.

It was further moved and carried, that the Secretary write to the editor of the Australian Medical Journal to insert a letter in which this Association requests the Medical Profession to refrain from prescribing German patents and ordering B.P. preparations instead.

The various delegates reported that their members were charging a minimum of 1s. 3d. for Aspirin, and 1s. 3d. for Seidlitz Powders.

It was further moved and carried, that it be a recommendation to the sections to use the word 'Septof' for Liq. Cresoli Saponatus Co. against Lysol; that the price for it be 6d. for 2 oz. and 1s. for 6 oz.

Mr. Jones, of the South Sub-Section, reported that his section had agreed to charging the following uniform prices:—Lysol, 1½ oz. 6d., 4 oz. 1/-; glycerine, 2 oz. panels 6d., 4 oz. panels 1/-; Effervescing Saline, 1/3; Mag. Cit., Bishop's 1/9 and 2/9, own Mag. Cit. 1/-; J. and J. cotton wool, 3/6 per lb., 2/- per ½ lb.; other cotton wool, 2/6 per lb.; Fellows' Syrup, 3/9 and 5/9; Eno's Fruit Salt, 3/-; camphor, ¼ oz. 1d., ½ oz. 2d., 1 oz. 4d.

It was moved and carried that the annual meeting of the Association be held on Tuesday, October 20th.

New South Wales.

(From Our Sydney Correspondent.)

Pharmacy Board of New South Wales.

The regular monthly meeting of the Board was held at Sydney on September 8th. The President (Mr. A. Wadsworth) occupied the chair, and there were also present Mr. W. Short, F. P. J. Gray, and E. E. C. Schofield.

A Company Pharmacy.—The secretary of the Goulburn District Friendly Societies' Association wrote stating that they had opened a pharmacy and notifying that they had appointed Mr. W. F. Schnockel, a duly qualified pharmacist, as manager of the same. The notice was formally received.

The Registrar pointed out that when a similar application was made to the Board on a former occasion, it was referred to the Crown Law Department, and the opinion was given that while a Friendly Society was not allowed to enter into business in the manner described, there was nothing under the Pharmacy Act to prevent a number of members of such a Society forming an association for business purposes and opening and carrying on a pharmacy, always provided that they employed a qualified manager.

Advertisement for an Apprentice.—A correspondent called the attention of the Board to an advertisement appearing in the daily press for an apprentice to learn dispensing, highest wages offered. The advertisement was by a herbalist, who was not qualified under the Pharmacy Act.

The President said that they could do nothing in the matter. Of course the apprenticeship would be valueless so far as the youth's career as a pharmacist was concerned, and it would be so much waste time. If the advertiser could find any one foolish enough to serve him under the conditions he could offer they were powerless in the matter. There was nothing to prevent a herbalist taking an apprentice, but such apprentice would not rank as one taken by a pharmacist.

Reciprocity with Texas.—A pharmacist, resident in Tasmania, wrote asking if the Pharmacy Board of New South Wales were willing to reciprocate with the Pharmacy Board of Texas. From the letter and copies of letters forwarded it appeared that the writer was a qualified chemist in Texas, U.S.A., and desired to purchase a pharmacy in New South Wales. He had written to Texas, and the secretary of the Texas Board had written stating that their Board were quite willing to reciprocate, and if the members of the Pharmacy Board of New South Wales were willing they could all receive certificates of registration in Texas if they would grant a similar honour to the members of the State Pharmacy Board of Texas. Applicant proved that he was a graduate of the Chicago College of Pharmacy, and had duly served 4 years' apprenticeship with a qualified American pharmacist. He asked if the Pharmacy Board were willing to reciprocate with the Texas Board.

Mr. Gray said that he thought that their present policy was to reciprocate as far as possible within the British Empire, but reciprocity outside these bounds was a very big question, which required careful consideration.

Mr. Wadsworth said that he thought that they would require far more information than that before them at the present time before they could agree to the proposal made. The United States' standards were different from theirs, and they did not use the same Pharmacopoeia.

Mr. Gray pointed out that they did not yet reciprocate with South Africa. He was of opinion that the matter should be allowed to stand over.

It was decided to decline the application for registration on the Texan diploma. Mr. Gray moved—"That this Board does not consider it advisable to open up reciprocity agreements with any State in which the British Pharmacopoeia is not the standard." The motion was seconded by Mr. E. E. C. Schofield, and carried.

Registration Under the Pharmacy Act.—Alex. J. Taylor, of Rockdale, a chemist and druggist of Great Britain, renewed his application for registration under the reciprocity agreement with Great Britain. The Registrar pointed out that applicant had not produced the certificates required, that he had passed the Preliminary, that he had served an apprenticeship, and that he had passed any intermediate and any qualifying examinations, but he produced a letter from the secretary of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain showing that he was qualified. This presupposed that he had passed the preliminary, etc., as he could not otherwise be qualified, and therefore the one certificate was taken to contain all other certificates required by the reciprocity agreement. The Registrar stated that when the first applicant from New South Wales applied for registration in Great Britain, he was provided with all the necessary certificates to ensure such recognition. He deposited with the Registrar of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain a certificate that he had passed the Preliminary, a certificate that he had served an apprenticeship

of not less than three years; a certificate that he had passed the University examinations, and that he had passed the Final Examination. Finally he produced the certificate of registration in New South Wales. This showed his whole professional education, and every applicant for registration under reciprocity agreement should be prepared to produce such papers if he wished to have registration promptly granted to him. The application of Mr. Taylor was granted.

James A. Johns, a pharmaceutical chemist of New Zealand, applied for registration, which was granted on production of all necessary papers.

In Lieu of Preliminary.—L. A. Durno, of Sydney, submitted his second class pass from the College of Preceptors, England, and asked that the same be accepted in lieu of Preliminary examination. The pass was accepted.

Registration Under the Poisons Act.—A. J. Taylor and J. A. Johns were registered and granted license under the Poisons Act.

Annual Poisons Licenses were granted to six country storekeepers.

Registration of Indentures.—L. J. Meagher, to Martin Meagher, of Redfern, term three years; L. A. Durno, to John Duncan, term three years. The indentures of T. H. Rath were transferred from C. J. Adams to Samuel Harris, of Wooncona.

Special Final Examination.—Nine candidates applied for a special Final Examination to be held next month.

Mr. Short said that of these applicants there was only one who had not failed in former examinations. He was of the opinion that the candidates would do well to come up again more thoroughly prepared, and personally he was opposed to allowing candidates who failed in one examination to apply for a special examination at the following Board meeting. He moved that the matter stand over for consideration at the October Board meeting. Carried.

Reciprocity with Ireland.—The following notice of motion stood in the name of Mr. W. Short—"That the resolution passed by the Board on June 11, 1903, recognising the certificate of registration as pharmaceutical chemist by the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland, be rescinded, and that the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland be written to acquainting them of the fact and asking them to agree to a reciprocal understanding with the Pharmacy Board of this State regarding the recognition of each other's certificates of registration on the basis of the understanding with the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain."

Mr. Short said that since he gave notice of that motion war had been declared, and under the circumstances it would be impossible for the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland to obtain the necessary legal sanction he proposed. He therefore desired to withdraw the motion, and in order that no injustice might be done to any Irishman landing in Australia, he thought that the matter might be safely left over until a more opportune time. The motion was therefore withdrawn.

New Member of the Board.—Mr. Wadsworth said that it gave him very much pleasure to welcome Mr. E. E. C. Schofield, who on the present occasion had taken his seat for the first time as a member of the Pharmacy Board in the place of Mr. A. E. Sharpe, resigned.

Mr. Schofield said that he thanked the Board for the honour done him in selecting him to fill the vacancy.

Pharmaceutical Society of New South Wales.

The regular meeting of Council was held on September 8th. The President (Mr. F. P. J. Gray) occupied the chair. There were also present Messrs. A. Wadsworth, W. Short and E. E. C. Schofield.

Camphorated Oil.—Miss L. Wilson, pharmacist, of Lindfield, wrote calling attention to an article in a trade paper on this matter, and asking for advice. Mr. Short said that he considered the view expressed in the article in question quite wrong. If pharmacists read their B.P. and followed the directions therein given they could not go wrong. The view that if the avoirdupois ounce of camphor was used the product would be 9 per cent. deficient in camphor was absurd. Mr. Forster said that if in cases of prosecution the pharmacist would consult with him a considerable amount of misunderstanding would be avoided.

New Members.—Mr. W. J. Maher, of Newcastle, and Mr. Asa C. Hailes, of Wyong, applied for membership. A ballot was taken, and they were declared elected.

Applications for Diploma.—Mr. R. R. Penman and Mr. H. J. Falk applied for the Society's diploma, which was granted.

Pharmacists' Patriotic Fund.—The Secretary reported that on Friday, September 4th, a number of ladies met at the office of the Society, and Mr. F. P. J. Gray presided. The object was to collect for the Patriotic Fund and to send in a special collection from pharmacists, those who desired to contribute goods in place of money were invited to do so. Bandages, hospital dressings, clinical thermometers, or surgical instruments would be acceptable. Mrs. Mallam was appointed hon. treasurer, and Mrs. D. J. Williams and Mr. Adam Forster were appointed joint hon. secretaries.

Mr. Gray said he thought the object was a good one, and an effort would be made by circular to obtain contributions from country pharmacists. If not convenient to send otherwise, parcels might be forwarded by the carters employed by the wholesale drug warehouses. Mr. Wadsworth agreed with Mr. Gray that the object was a very laudable one, and he hoped that the movement would receive the support from pharmacists that it deserved. He noticed that pharmacists had not raised their prices even in spite of the fact that the wholesale prices had gone up to a greater extent than they had been led to expect. In his opinion the chemist was the first to feel the rise in prices, but the last to pass it on to his customers until absolutely forced to do so.

After routine business had been disposed of, the meeting adjourned.

Northern Sydney Pharmacists' Association.

Apparently "age cannot wither" this, the first of the "local associations," for, after seven years of fruitful existence, a record attendance has to be chronicled at the meeting held on the evening of August 27. Seven years may not appear a lengthy period, but it has usually proved to be ample for the destruction—either from atrophy or inanition—of similar associations. Perhaps it was the record of "good deeds done" by the N.S.P.A., or maybe it was the patriotic call of the notice paper; anyhow, a bumper attendance of 25 was registered, which left very few blanks in the district. It is said that there is an "atmosphere" in Northern Sydney that affects those who get it into their lungs, so much so that a newcomer inevitably and quickly comes within the magic circle. Six "brothers of the weight and measure," new men come into the district, testified to the "atmosphere" and showed at the same time their public spirit by attending, and afterwards indicating that they wished to "join the happy throng."

There were present:—Mr. H. D. B. Cox, President; Miss L. Wilson (Killara); Messrs. Manning, Joscelyne, Wadsworth, Johnston, Belcher, Sadler, Baxter, Redmond, Fogarty, Lennon, Curtis, Ferguson, Inglis, Park, Price (Hon. Sec.), Ritchie, Sinclair, Brown, Swindale, Musson and Sleeman.

A new—but, as yet, unofficial—position has been created, Mr. Alex. Sadler being installed in the onerous (and, as yet, unsalaried) office of Bard to the Association. This is no sinecure, Mr. Sadler having been required to produce a pharmaceutical "anthem" for use at Association gatherings. So was introduced a new feature (designed to be a permanent one), the business being preceded by the company singing with verve, under the "Bard's" leadership, the "anthem," "The Men of Hardwork."

The principal business being to consider the effect of the war upon members both as citizens and pharmacists, as well as its incidence upon their calling, a general statement was made from the chair. This summarised interviews that had been sought with several of the wholesale houses, and defined generally the action and attitude taken by them in relation to the retail trade in the crisis arising out of the war. The position, in brief, taken was that in everyone's interest it was desirable to keep trade as nearly as possible at its normal level, hence, while retailers' usual requirements in ordinary quantities would as far as possible be supplied, every discouragement would be given to "stocking-up"; at the same time, in order that their pharmacist clients should have every advantage that the circumstances would allow, the travellers who ordinarily called upon grocers and storekeepers had been taken off. By this means they hoped to conserve to pharmacists their legitimate trade. The position in regard to disinfectants was dealt with, it being pointed out that it was both a patriotic and businesslike course to now cease to stock articles of German origin. Disinfectants, local manufacture and protected in price on the P.A.T.A. list, viz.—"Sercsol" and "Kresapol"—were available, and should be "pushed" to the uttermost, while "Camphenol" and "Septol" (A.P.F.), also cresylic acid compounds of a different type, were to be listed at a satisfactory margin, and this would provide pharmacists with a useful alternative to the lysol type of antiseptic.

Realising that members would wish to render aid in the crisis that their country was faced with, the Chairman continued, he had called upon the officers of the Army Medical Corps, but had been informed that for the present the A.M.C. was amply staffed. Close upon fifty pharmacists had volunteered. There might be a call upon them later on. As personal service was not required, it was for them to decide in what other direction they could help.

The following resolutions were carried after considerable discussion:—

"That members cut Lysol out of stock, after disposing of present supplies, and that they deprecate the handling or use of German goods, giving, instead, preference first to British goods and then to those of Britain's allies in the present conflict. And further that members make no endeavour to procure fresh stocks of German-made goods on exhausting present holdings." Proposed by Messrs. Manning and Wadsworth.

"That a sub-committee, consisting of the President and Hon. Secretary and Mr. Wadsworth, be appointed to act in the name of the N.S.P.A. in connection with the foregoing resolution, and to consult with the doctors on the subject, if possible." Moved by Mr. Lennon.

"That members discourage the raising of prices of goods above pre-existing rates, unless and until increases in cost have to be shouldered by them. Further, that the N.S.P.A. wishes it to be known that they will strongly resent any attempt by wholesalers or others to raise prices unjustifiably."

Mr. Price proposed: "That a subscription list in aid of the Belgian and Patriotic Funds in the name of the N.S.P.A. be opened forthwith, and that a donation thereto of five guineas be made from the Association's funds." This was carried with enthusiasm, after patriotic addresses by the mover and other members. Mr. Joscelyne was made treasurer of the fund, and was kept busy receiving contributions, about £50 being donated in the room.

Before the meeting ended the President alluded to the early departure from the district of Mr. W. H. Baxter, the Hon. Treasurer, and moved:—"That this Association places on record its regret at his leaving, wishes him every success in his new sphere, and expresses the hope that he will carry into the new surroundings the spirit of the N.S.P.A. to which he has contributed so much." High encomiums were voiced by the mover and others, and Mr. Baxter feelingly acknowledged the compliment. The National Anthem concluded a most successful meeting.

Off to the War.

Mr. Charles Warden, who has been for many years one of the employees of Elliott Brothers Limited, has been appointed staff-sergeant dispenser to the A Section of the Light Horse Ambulance. Major Helsham is in charge of the

Section, and Mr. Charles Helsham (Secretary of Sydney Hospital) is transport-sergeant. Mr. Warden has seen service in the South African war. He left Sydney on January 17th, 1900, by the "Moravian," for East London, and served under General Gatacre at Stormburg, and was with General Sir Ian Hamilton's column at Bloemfontein in the Army Medical Corps under Major Newmarsh, of North Sydney. He holds the Queen's Medal with four clasps, and the King's Medal with two clasps. Mr. Warden is highly esteemed by his fellow employees, and Dr. Elliott has granted him leave of absence for whatever time he may find it necessary to be away on duty for his country. Those with whom he served during the South African campaign speak of him in the highest terms.

Not Made in Germany.

Sydney chemists are often remarking to their customers, "This line is not made in Germany." Even when a certain disinfectant is asked for, some chemists supply a preparation made in Australia and say that it is of the same composition as the particular one asked for, and there is such a prejudice against German goods just now in Sydney that people take the substitute readily for the usual article. There are several notable exceptions, however. The well-known "4711" goods still hold their own. Drinkers of Hunyadi Janos Water can still get their favourite mineral water, as large stocks are in Sydney, and Wolff's perfumery will have a large sale this Christmas season. Merck's chemicals are scarce, and are fetching fancy prices, as the holders do not know when they shall be able to get further supplies. Meanwhile there is no scarcity of Howard's chemicals, and except that the mails may be a little irregular and freights and insurance may increase the cost of transport, English articles will be used in place of those hitherto obtained from German houses. Many business men, however, predict that once the war is ended the demand for German goods will resume the former proportions.

The Late Mrs. Lewis Wolfe Levy.

Mrs. Levy, who has long been known as the leading lady philanthropist of Sydney, died at her residence "Cahors," Macleay-street, Pott's Point, on September 5th. Her death was quite unexpected, and though she was 89 years of age, she had such wonderful possession of all her faculties that she was about and busy with work for the soldiers' kits even to the day before her death. Mrs. Levy was the widow of Lewis Wolfe Levy, M.L.C., who was for many years one of the leading merchants in New South Wales, and took a prominent part in the business of Cohen and Levy, of Maitland and Newcastle (now David Cohen & Co.). He was a very generous man, and his memory is always in the minds of the Sydney people by reason of the handsome fountain erected at the entrance of the Botanic Gardens, which was his gift to the City of Sydney. The deceased lady was not a native of Sydney, but arrived when very young and has all her life been associated with works of benevolence and charity in Sydney. Her gifts were by no means limited to Jewish charities, in which, of course, she took a special interest, but the hospitals generally and perhaps St. Vincent's Hospital in particular had her liberal support. There was not a movement for the relief of suffering or the benefit of the poor that Mrs. Levy was not an active supporter. She was the mother of 13 children, of whom Mr. Harry S. Levy and Mr. Septimus R. Levy are now the best known in Sydney; also Mrs. George J. Cohen and Mrs. B. D. Cohen.

Chemists' Bowling Club.

This Club continues to prosper, and a good game was played against the Balmain Club on August 26th, resulting in a win for the Chemists, who scored 75 against their opponents 69.

The following were the Chemists' scores:—Messrs. Benson, Swann, Rogers and Butcher scored 21 against their opponents 27. Messrs. Williams, Ellis, Lloyd and Hogue scored 22 against their opponents 27, but Messrs. West, Stewart, Redmond and Stabback saved the situation by scoring 32 against their opponents 15. The next Inter-State competition is being looked forward to with great interest by the Sydney players, who are determined to give a good account of themselves. The Annual Meeting was held on September 9th, at the Victoria Park Bowling Club Rooms. The Chemists' Club has affiliated with the Victoria Park Club, and has thus secured a ground and a home The Secretary gave a verbal report of the past years' work of the Club, and laid before the members the balance sheet, which showed a credit balance for the year of £20. This was regarded as exceedingly satisfactory. The following officers were then elected:—Patron, Mr. A. L. Silly (Austral Drug Company); President, Mr. D. J. Williams; Vice-Presidents, Dr. J. F. Elliott, Mr. C. Butcher, West, Snelson, Benson, Stabback, Rogers, and Denyer. Committee, Messrs. West, Redmond, Schofield, Stewart, Forster, Secretary and Treasurer (Frank Lloyd).

General News.

Mr. W. Caunt, whose death was reported last month, writes that he is still very much alive, and has no wish to be prematurely placed amongst the list of the departed.

Mr. J. S. Cobb, who died on August 7, was in business for 27 years as a pharmacist in Waverley. He was a leading member of the Eastern Suburbs' Association, and was one of the first pharmacists in Sydney to join the P.D.L. Mr. Cobb was held in great esteem by all who knew him.

Mr. B. A. Atwell, the town representative of the Australian Drug Co., died during the month. Registered in Great Britain in 1877, Mr. Atwell came to Australia in the eighties and held various positions in Hobart, Goswell, Gympie, Mackay, and Katoomba. He was registered both in Queensland and Victoria. In 1897 he joined the staff of the Australian Drug Co., which brought him into touch with a large number of pharmacists, by whom he was greatly esteemed. He is survived by a widow and six children.

Queensland.

Pharmaceutical Society of Queensland.

The 24th Annual Meeting was held at Brisbane on August 12th. Present: Mr. J. W. Case (President) in the chair; and Messrs. Lenehan, Lunn, Costin, Chater, Simmonds, Mackay, Minnis, Davies, Rutter, Park, Ward, Forbes, and the Secretary. Apologies for non-attendance were received from Messrs. C. Ridgley, T. F. Hall, G. Watkins, and Jas. Daley. The Annual Report (published in our last issue) was taken as read, and declared open for discussion.

Mr. Mackay urged the Council to see that a sufficient length of time elapsed between the date of the publication of the new B.P. and that on which it would come into operation. Mr. Mackay outlined the present position with regard to labelling, and said that the Council should give their early attention to the question of an independent analysis of drugs. Possibly they might find it necessary to give a competent man a retaining fee. Guarantees by wholesale houses were only of partial application, and he had observed that guarantee labels were not so frequently used by them as when the arrangement was first made. It was gratifying to the Craft that a P.A.T.A. had at length been established in Queensland, and was doing useful work. He thought that the present was a favourable time to force on the Military Authorities the claims of pharmacists to commissioned rank. He had spoken to Mr. Pethebridge and to Col. Sutton, P.M.O., in Queensland, and he could not find anyone opposing the claims of the pharmacists excepting the Medical Director-General, Dr. Williams.

Mr. W. J. Costin spoke on the inattention of the Department of Public Health to the enquiries of members regarding labelling.

Mr. J. C. Minnis (Blackall) said that he regretted that no steps had been taken by the Government to safeguard pharmacists' interests. The privileges they possessed left no hope of making a living out of the professional side of their business. They had never received a fair deal as a responsible section of the community having definite functions to fulfil. Other avenues of life gave so much better opportunities that he doubted if anyone in the room would again select pharmacy as a profession. In Rockhampton the writing of cypher scrips was resorted to by certain medical men for their own gain, and one private hospital actually went so far as to sell bandages and dressings. A certain amount of counter prescribing was forced on chemists in the case of minor ailments owing to the inability or refusal of patients to pay a fee for consultation.

Mr. Park said there was an undercurrent of dissent in the ranks of the Craft itself. He found that members had no hesitation in breaking their pledges, as was instanced in the closing agreement. He maintained that these men were not worthy of any consideration, and he advocated stringent measures for bringing these black sheep into line. When some unanimity was reached then they would be able to attack the larger problems.

Mr. J. Lunn, in his remarks, paid special attention to National Social Insurance. He said it appeared to him that the rank and file were not devoting the serious attention the subject merited. It was sure to come, and the only objection that an opposition party would have to it was that they were not privileged to introduce it themselves. With regard to the complaints of members breaking their word, he thought the only way of effectively dealing with them was to form a trade union of members.

Mr. Rutter drew attention to the apathy of members as shown by the meagre attendance. He thought that members were not seized of the debt of gratitude to Mr. Case for leaving his business for so long to attend meetings in Melbourne and Sydney on Social Insurance. He also spoke on the P.A.T.A. and good work it was doing, and also on the subject of Military pharmacists, which he had been personally interested in.

The Annual Report was then formally adopted.

Financial Statement.—Mr. R. Lenehan (Treasurer) then gave an analysis of the Balance Sheet and Financial Statement. This was supplemented by the Secretary, who spoke of the probable combination between the three Eastern States of the Commonwealth on advertising the A.P.F. by circularisation direct and by advertising in the "Australasian Medical Journal." He said that after going into the subject with Mr. Butchers, when that gentleman was in Brisbane, he felt disposed to alter his opinion on the latter kind of advertisement, and that after the Council received fuller information from the South, he would recommend that this subject be re-opened.

The adoption of the Financial Statement and Balance Sheet was passed, and a vote of thanks was awarded to the Treasurer.

Presidential Address.—The President said that he had assumed office with diffidence, but that had passed away owing to the support he had received from the Councillors and Secretary. He regretted that Mr. Mackay had found it necessary to resign from the Council. He had been a tower of strength and his loss would be felt keenly. He intended to ask the meeting to pass a vote of thanks to Mr. Mackay for his past services.

A.P.F.—He said that the advertisement of the A.P.F. would receive every consideration, and was pleased to learn that the Southern States were waking up in this direction.

P.D.L.—The P.D.L. had progressed most favourably in the other States, and Mr Butchers had recently put before them reasons why a branch should be formed in Queensland.

Health Department and the Craft.—The year had been a troublesome one in connection with the Health Act and its regulations. As far as he knew, members were loyally assisting the Department in carrying out the Enthetic Diseases

Regulations. With regard to the other portions of the Act, they were not in the same favourable position. The labelling clauses were likely to be a severe menace to them. Recently the Government had secured the services of an analyst trained in the examination of drugs, and no one knew when he might inadvertently err.

Hospital Abuses.—The Council had, during the year, enquired into several hospital abuses, some of which had been satisfactorily explained, others had not.

National Social Insurance.—This subject was for the present somewhat dormant in view of the more serious matters engaging the attention of the Government. Queensland chemists did not view the subject with the same seriousness as their confreres in the South, where it had produced a marked rapprochement between doctors and chemists in opposition to the dispensaries, which were a serious menace both in the parent State and in Victoria.

Pharmacists and Military Duties.—Members would probably have seen a copy of a letter from the Society to Col. Sutton, P.M.O., in the daily papers. He had taken the initiative of this upon himself, but he had this morning received the heartiest commendations from the Council for his action.

Thanks to Mr. Mackay.—On the proposition of the President, seconded by Mr. Lunn, a vote of thanks was tendered to Mr. Mackay. Nearly all present spoke in laudatory terms of the services rendered to Queensland pharmacy by Mr. Mackay. Mr. Mackay returned thanks for the kind expressions, and said that after another twelve months he would be again able to join the Council table; meanwhile his assistance would always be at the service of the Council.

Business Committee.—The following were appointed members of the Business Committee for the year:—Messrs. Chater, Rutter, Davies, Marshall, G. W. Ward, Park, Case, and Lenehan.

Election of Auditors.—Messrs. W. J. Costin and J. C. Ward were re-appointed auditors.

The Returning Officer reported the unopposed return of Messrs. J. W. Case and R. C. Park as members of the Council.

The meeting terminated with a special vote of thanks to the President, the Councillors, and the Secretary, and an acknowledgment of the valuable assistance rendered by the office staff during the year.

Council Meeting, August 12th, 1914.

Present.—Messrs. J. W. Case (President), R. Lenehan, J. Lunn, A. B. Chater, F. W. Simmonds, R. C. Rutter, and J. P. Davies.

Outward Letters read and approved. Amongst which was a letter written to Lieut.-Col. Sutton, P.M.O., placing the services of the members in the hands of the Government should that be necessary in the present regrettable crisis.

Inward Letters.—Among these was one from the Department of Public Health saying, in reply to a complaint, that no officer of that Department had warned butchers and others against the use of sulphites as preservatives. Also from the Government Savings Bank indicating that the Benevolent Fund account was now in order. Also from Mr. C. L. Butchers thanking the Council for their courtesy to himself and Mrs. Butchers when in Brisbane.

Elections.—The following new members were elected:—John Herbert Goldsmith, Thomas Joseph Carey, Adolphus Symons, Edward Patrick Walsh, Richard Henry Hughes, John Armitstead.

Nominations for Membership.—Harold James Boreham, Herbert Edwin Crease, John Joseph Ruddy.

General.—The Secretary reported on his interviews with the Chief Inspector of Shops and Factories, who said that he would instruct his staff to pay special attention to chemists found open after or before the gazetted hours.

Forthcoming British Pharmacopoeia.—The Secretary reported that he had waited on the Commissioner for Public Health, and had asked to confer with the Council before fixing a date on which the new B.P. would become a legal standard. The Commissioner indicated his intention of doing so.

Election of Officers.—President, Mr. J. W. Case (re-elected); Vice-President, Mr. J. Lunn; Treasurer, Mr. R. Lenehan (re-elected); Secretary, Mr. R. C. Cowley (re-appointed).

Co-opted Members of the Council.—Mr. Reg. C. Park and Mr. J. A. Minnis.

Vote to Patriotic Fund.—On the motion of Mr. J. Lunn, it was decided to postpone any grant until the next meeting, pending further information on the manner on which it was proposed to expend the money collected.

Local Secretaries.—The following were nominated as local secretaries for their respective districts:—T. J. Carey, Rockhampton; F. G. Marshall, Bundaberg; R. H. Hughes, Maryborough; E. P. Walsh, Gympie.

The Advance in Price of Drugs and Chemicals.

Owing to receipt of cablegrams in Brisbane, stating that exportation of drugs and chemicals from the British Isle was prohibited, the wholesale prices of locally held stocks rose to as much as 50 per cent. above normal. As soon as the information was received, a deputation of the Pharmaceutical Society, consisting of the President, Mr. J. W. Case; the Secretary, Mr. Cowley; and Mr. Reg. C. Rutter, waited on the Under-Secretary of the Chief Secretary's Department (Mr. McDermott) to acquaint the Government of the fact. Their object was to keep faith with the Government and the people. They said that in time this would entail much hardship on the working classes, as chemists would no longer be in a position to contract with Friendly Societies for dispensing on the same favourable terms as at present.

The majority of chemists in Brisbane considered the advance in prices unwarranted and unjustified. A large and representative meeting of retail chemists was held in the Pharmacy Board Rooms on Saturday, August 15th, to discuss their position and to consider the feasibility of passing on the increased cost to the consumer. Many strong speeches were made denouncing the unpatriotic action of the wholesalers. It was the general opinion that the demands of wholesalers were exorbitant. They would have been prepared to pay a small increase on present stocks, and for goods on the water they were prepared to pay their share of increased insurance covering war risks and freight. These, however, would be covered by an extra 5 per cent.

The meeting decided that there could be no increase in the usual dispensing charges for the present, excepting in those cases where the additional cost demanded it, nor could any alteration be made in prices for lodge dispensing.

Previous to the meeting, the Secretary obtained the opinion of the Society's Solicitor on the practicability of rescinding contracts with Friendly Societies and Hospitals under present stress of circumstances. It was his opinion that present contracts must stand.

The action of wholesalers was unanimously condemned by the whole of the local press, in consequence of which Messrs. Taylor and Colledge Ltd. advertised that in order to restrict demand they had increased the prices, excepting for goods of Australian manufacture, and for minimum quantities only, from 10 to 25 per cent.

Since the above date, prices have dropped to normal in consequence of the activity of a Sydney house whose representative has been booking phenomenal orders in Queensland at normal rates.

As some doubt was cast on the authenticity of the cablegram from London regarding exports at the meeting, the Secretary waited on the Acting-Premier and asked the Government to verify it.

The wholesalers' action formed the subject of a question in the Legislative Assembly, but the answer from the Acting-Premier was an evasive one.

There is a probability of shortage in several lines in Queensland, though this has not become acute at present, to wit:—Acetyl salicylic acid, chloroform, and ether. Enquiries are being made as to the possibility of manufacturing them locally, but the chief trobule will lie in the difficulty of recovering the cost of the special plant necessary in event of the war terminating within a few months. This conveys the suggestion that the whole subject of chemical manufactures in Australia should come under review by a Royal Commission.

Prices of Proprietary Lines.

A meeting of the Business Committee has been held to attempt the unification of retail prices of proprietary articles. The meeting occupied the best part of an hour, but it was early seen that there was no hope of securing unanimity; furthermore, it was evident that members would not consider the decisions of the Committee binding on them. The only successful method of price-protection is a properly constituted P.A.T.A., similar to those operating in the other States.

Off to the Front.

The administrative work of Lieutenant Hall has been so much appreciated by the P.M.O., Lieut.-Col. Sutton, that a special request was made by him to the Military Authorities to permit Lieut. Hall to accompany the Queensland Expeditionary Force. He retains his commissioned rank, and his duties will be as quartermaster in charge of medical stores. It is believed that Lieut. Hall's position as a pharmacist is exceptional. Mr. F. H. Phillips, at present with Messrs. Watkins and Mackay, will take his place at Victoria Barracks.

Some discontent exists in North Queensland, and much inconvenience has been caused, through the Military Authorities calling on principals and managers of chemists' shops to serve on active service when those in a subordinate position could perform the work they are called upon to do equally as well, especially as they were called upon without warning, and for an unknown period of time.

Chemists in North Queensland are kept well employed at present. The changeable climate experienced lately has caused much bronchial trouble. Diphtheria and dengue have been experienced in certain districts.

British Association.

The visit of the British Association to Brisbane did not attract much public attention, since all the Sessions of the Association were held in the southern capitals. Some of the popular lectures were fairly well attended, and Sir Oliver Lodge's Sunday orations attracted overflowing houses. The Queensland visit was of the nature of a series of picnics and garden parties, at the invitation of the State Premier and of the Mayor of Brisbane. The visitors expressed their anxiety to get home on account of the war. One prominent visitor said to the writer that the German gun boats might sink them when returning.

Mr. Cowley reports to the writer that he had the opportunity of renewing acquaintance with several former acquaintances attached to the Liverpool University and elsewhere.

Among the visitors to the College of Pharmacy were Dr. Alfred Holt, of the Research Laboratory, Liverpool University, and director of Thompson and Capper, homœopathic chemists, of Liverpool; and Miss Lorrain Smith, of South Kensington Museum, bearing a letter of introduction from Mr. E. M. Holmes, curator of the Pharmaceutical Society's museum, London.

South Australia.

(From Our Adelaide Correspondent.)

Things in General.

The principal feature of business in South Australia is its extreme quietness caused by the war, but mostly by the drought that has been, and still is, hanging over us. The two evils have kept us in a state of extreme tension almost approaching to a nervous breakdown. One night an uncharted low, wedged a V shaped depression over the State, and the next morning people awoke, in surprise, to find that about half an inch of rain had quietly fallen over the country. The September Agricultural Show was being held in Adelaide, and at a meeting of farmers, when the rain reports were read out by the chairman, the men rose and sang the doxology. People don't act like this when things are normal.

Mostly War.

"Germania contra mundum" was the phrase, and the bands played "Germany conquers all" through Belgium. But now it is the world against Germany, and no doubt the Kaiser, the Krupps and the military party will realise to the full the force of the old dictum, "Væ Victis," as did the Romans of old when, grudgingly parting with their gold, Attila the Goth threw his heavy broad sword into the scale as an added weight to quicken their movements. Our Chamber of Manufactures has resolved to boycott all German wares for the next 21 years, and some Victorian suburbs wish to alter their German names. Perhaps this is patriotic: it certainly is emotional. But by-and-bye the sun will shine again, and the everyday work of the world will be resumed. Kipling taught the English people to sing "Lest We Forgot, Lest We Forget," and the world will long owe a debt to many such men as Koch, Ehrlich, Behring and Rontgen, and the good work done by such firms as Merck and Beyer will not easily be cancelled out by the sins of others. Perhaps we may yet come to miss them. We have Aspirin, Heroin, etc., made in Japan, although Mr. Fisher says he will make Australia a self-contained country—which will not be yet.

It is a matter of surprise to me that the human mind, which is sometimes staggered by a single calamity, can read, as many of us do, of wholesale slaughter, blood running like water, as the press puts it, with feelings almost of elation.

Shortage of Anæsthetics.

Owing to the stoppage of German supplies of anæsthetics, it is stated here that Melbourne is faced with a serious shortage of chloroform and ether. Chemists are already taking steps to conserve their supplies by selling only small quantities of the drugs. Messrs. F. H. Faulding and Co. informed the press that anæsthetics, ether and chloroform being made from pure alcohol, the manufacture of these and hundreds of other products had always been denied to English makers because the British Government refused concessions which had been freely granted to manufacturers of similar goods in Germany. The same restrictions on the use of alcohol had retarded progress in Australia. In a recent number of the *Lancet* it is stated that ether made from methylated spirit is in use in all the London hospitals. Such stuff is not good enough for use in Germany, but, owing to red tape and British Government restrictions, it is quite good enough for English-speaking people. It is hoped that the authorities in Australia, as well as in England, will at last realise that the prosperity of Germany in the chemical industry, at any rate, is very largely due to the liberal use of pure alcohol in the manufacture of synthetic and other drugs and preparations.

Gifts of Hot Water Bags.

The following Adelaide chemists gave hot water bags for the use of the soldiers:—Mr. Burden, King William-street, 3; Mr. Wastell, King-William-street, 2; Mr. Main, King William-street, 1; Mr. Stevens, Rundle-street, 1; Mr. Coudrey, Rundle-street, 1; Mr. White, Rundle-streeet, 1; Mr. Fox, Unley-road, 1; Mr. Truran, Hanson-street, 1; Mr. P. Wells, Grote-street, 1.

German Trade in Australia.

Messrs. F. H. Faulding and Co. have received the following letter from the representative of a big firm of German chemists, who is at present at Colombo. It is dated August 14, and reads as follows:—"This unfortunate war has detained me here, en route for Adelaide, but I shall proceed there immediately on its termination. Meanwhile, I trust that the goodwill which you have always shown me and my firm will not be affected by the calamity which has befallen us. I need hardly assure you that we merchants have neither part nor guilt in this unfortunate quarrel, and I trust that your sense of justice will not make us suffer for the deeds of others. I particularly beg to appeal to you to accept any goods which may have been shipped before the declaration of war, and to assist us to tide over this severe crisis by meeting our bills on maturity. If the goods are delayed through the war the bank will extend our drafts on presentation of this letter. Kindly accept my best thanks for rendering us this great service in a black hour."

This letter was shown to a press representative by Mr. Luther Scammell, of the firm of Faulding and Co., and Mr. Scammell was asked what attitude was to be taken with regard to it. He stated emphatically that his firm would have nothing to do with any German houses during the present crisis, and he expressed the hope that other Adelaide business people would take a similar stand. "Every time we turn down a German firm," he said, "we are doing something to help England in her hour of trouble. Australia is beset with German travellers, and we must emphasise the absolute necessity of Australian people helping the old country by helping her trade. We have no quarrel with the German merchants personally, but we must remember that if we help them we are buying powder to blow our own brains out."

Tasmania.

Pharmacy Board of Tasmania.

The regular meeting of the Board was held on August 31st, at 10 a.m.

The New B.P.—The President reported that he had discussed the question of joint action regarding the introduction of the new edition with Dr. Crouch, but as publication had been indefinitely postponed, registrar was instructed to advise Dr. Crouch accordingly.

Correspondence.—J. R. Benneworth wrote again asking for information re Poisons Act. Mr. Drake moved that Benneworth be informed that no other drugs had been gazetted, and that the Board cannot express any opinion as to the provisions of the act.

R. J. Ellis.—Police reported that R. J. Ellis had left Derby to join Expeditionary Force.

A Carlton storekeeper at Derby wrote asking for information to enable him to get a Poison License at Derby.

Hospital Enquiry.—Registrar was instructed to write to the chief Health Officer that, while the Board did not desire to interfere in any present appointments, it was of opinion that provision should be made for the future that all vacancies in the office of dispenser in Hospitals and N.F.S. Dispensaries should be filled by fully qualified chemists.

Red Cross Fund.—A donation of £5/5/- was voted to the fund on the motion of Mr. Weaver, seconded by Mr. Sidwell.

Notice of Motion.—Mr. Sidwell gave notice of motion that he would move at the next meeting that the position of apprentices who might be absent on Military duty should be considered.

Western Australia.

Perth and Suburban Chemists' Association.

The 60th meeting of the Perth and Suburban Chemists' Association was held in MacDonald's Rooms, on Wednesday, August 12th, 1914.

Present—Messrs. Southee (chair), Kruger, Gulley, Arnold, Hunter, Howling, Tilly, Sagar, Lohrmann, Cooke, Richardson, and Moloney (Hon. Secretary). Apologies from Messrs. George and Birks.

Annual Elections.—The election of officers for the coming year resulted in the following being selected:—President, Mr. F. Southee (re-elected); Vice-President, Mr. H. A. Cooke (re-elected); Secretary, Mr. M. J. Moloney (re-elected); Treasurer, Mr. J. B. George (re-elected); Auditors, Messrs. Kruger and Cooke.

Vote of Thanks.—A vote of thanks to the past officers was carried with acclamation, Messrs. Southee, Cooke and Moloney suitably replying.

Patriotic Fund.—Mr. Tilly reported that the Pharmaceutical Council had donated the sum of £50 to the Patriotic Fund. The action of the Council was heartily approved of by the meeting.

Mr. Southee referred to his visit to Melbourne, and spoke in appreciative terms of the kindness shown to him during his stay there.

Subscriptions.—Subscriptions for 1914-15 were received from the following:—Messrs. Lohrmann, Southee, Gulley, Cooke, Kruger, Arnold, Howling, Sagar, Hunter, Moloney, and Tindale.

M. Moloney, Hon. Sec.

P.A.T.A.

A special meeing of the Executive Committee was held on Friday, August 28, at 10.30 a.m., to consider what mode of procedure should be adopted by the P.A.T.A. during the war crisis.

Present: Messrs. McRoberts (in the chair), Drake, Sayle and the Secretary.

Members were of opinion that for the present the Secretary should proceed quietly with his work and perhaps personally interview those traders who were reported as cutting any line. It did not seem to them possible that under existing conditions it would be possible for anyone to cut below the fixed minimum prices.

The Evils of Price-Cutting.

The Council of the P.A.T.A. of New South Wales has had printed for distribution an excellent pamphlet of eight pages, written by Mr. L. Zions, setting out the Evils of Price-cutting, and explaining what the P.A.T.A. really is. Mr. Zions makes out a very good case for the P.A.T.A., and we would like to see every legislator in possession of a copy of the pamphlet. Indeed, it would be worth while the firms and associations interested in price-maintenance generally to co-operate in the direction of obtaining a reprint of Mr. Zion's pamphlet, and distributing it amongst the trading community generally. It would be money well spent.

P.D.L.

The directors met at the College of Pharmacy, Melbourne, on September 16.

Present.—Mr. F. Buckhurst (in the chair), and Messrs. Francis, Mewkell, Peters, Rankin and Towl.

New Members Elected.—A. E. Carrig, Port Augusta; E. Hoile, Petersburg, S.A. F. H. Fletcher, Newcastle; G. Whyte, Mosman; P. Cambourne, Five Dock, N.S.W.

Correspondence.

I.O.A., in reference to some 20 members who had paid their indemnity policies to that office instead of the Melbourne Fire Office. It was resolved that steps be taken to protect these members for the year 1914-15, as they had paid their premium to the I.O.A. under a misapprehension.

J. C. Burbery, Wellington, stating that his associate was still working to secure commissions for pharmacists in the Army Medical Corps, and pointing out that the Territorial Army in Eng-

land gave due recognition to qualified pharmacists.

Shops and Factories Department, intimating that the provisions of the Factories Act were now being observed by the St. Arnaud U.F.S. Dispensary.

G. W. Sobee, Mildura, asking the directors to secure the privilege of 8 o'clock closing for chemists in shires. Resolved that the secretary interview the Chief Inspector of Factories on the matter.

H. D. B. Cox, Sydney, forwarding particulars of work carried out by the Sydney branch.

The solicitor wrote, stating that he had given advice to a member in connection with a tenancy agreement relating to his pharmacy.

Report re Claims.

The following report was received from the manager of the Insurance Office of Australia, with which office the Indemnity policies for 1913 were taken out:—

"Some months ago a claim for forty pounds odd was made against a country chemist by one of his clients for the loss of a large number of sheep which died through the client using a drench which he said was supplied to him by Mr. ———. Although the claim did not come under his policy, which only covers personal injuries, we had no hesitation in informing Mr. Retchford that we would defend this case for him and help him out of his difficulty.

"After carefully going into the evidence, we failed to find any negligence on the part of the chemist or his staff, and instructed him to deny any liability whatever. His client then placed the matter in the hands of his solicitors, who took the matter to court, but when it came up in July they asked for an adjournment until some time this month. We instructed a firm of solicitors to act for Mr. ————, and they agreed with us on the evidence submitted. Mr. ——— has a very good case, and we do not think there is any likelihood of his client winning the action.

"We recently had another case at ———, where the assistant of Mr. ——— put some drops on the eye of a man who called at his shop and who returned later on to say that the drops had made the eye worse and he was proceeding to Melbourne to see a specialist. We understand the man came to Melbourne and had the eye removed at the Eye Hospital, and on his return he threatened proceedings if Mr. ——— did not pay him £100.

"We carefully went into this matter with Mr. ———, and after submitting the eye lotion to our own doctor here and receiving a report from the doctor in the town, we instructed Mr. ——— to inform this man that under no circumstances would he admit any liability whatever. Some weeks have now lapsed, and as we have not heard from Mr. Bennett, we assume that the matter has ended.

"The above two cases, we thought, it would be as well for you to bring under the notice of 'The P.D.L.' members, as we certainly think that had these men not had Indemnity policies, and if the Pharmaceutical Defence had not been in existence, these cases might have cost the chemists a very considerable amount of worry, time and expense before they could have cleared matters up.

"The very fact of a chemist, in the case of claims, being able to state that he must refer the matter to his Defence Company and Insurance Company for their consideration, prevents the public from taking action."

U.F.S. Dispensaries.

The chairman reported the action which had been taken in reference to the Friendly Societies Bill, which proposed to allow U.F.S. Dispensaries to practically keep open chemists' shops and trade with the public. This proposal had been defeated in the Assembly, but a fresh move had been made to get it passed in the Legislative Council. Very prompt measures were taken, and it was hoped that Parliament would realise the injustice of the proposal, which, if carried, would create a very serious position with regard to retail pharmacy in Victoria.

Certain aspects of the matter were fully and carefully discussed in committee, and very strong disapproval was expressed at the apparent breach of faith on the part of the dispensaries in breaking away without notice from the agreement arrived at at the Conferences held in 1913.

Mr. Towl said that the leading dispensaries were still against trading with the public, but some of the smaller ones had taken the matter into their own hands and had prompted the amendment.

Election of Director.

Mr. Cornell having resigned his seat on the Board for business reasons, it was decided to invite the Ballarat Chemists' Association to nominate another local pharmacist in his place.

Alteration of Articles.

It was resolved that certain alterations in the Articles of Association which were found to be necessary should be drafted and submitted for approval at the annual meeting.

Annual Report.

The annual report was discussed, and the secretary undertook to have the draft prepared for the October meeting.

Amalgamated Insurance Co.

The chairman said that under the terms of the agreement between the Amalgamated Insurance Co. and the P.D.L. the latter company was empowered to appoint three directors to the Amalgamated Board. He therefore asked for nominations. Mr. Rankin said that he thought the chairman should be nominated for a term of years in consideration of the immense amount of labour and attention he had devoted to the interests of pharmacists. Mr. Buckhurst had done an enormous amount of work, and he (Mr. Rankin) had no hesitation in moving that the appointment be for a term of ten years. Mr. Towl seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously. Mr. Buckhurst thanked the directors for their continued confidence in him. He was devoting a lot of time to the Amalgamated Co., and hoped that his efforts would produce

satisfactory results to pharmacists. On the motion of Mr. Towl, seconded by Mr. Mewkell, the appointments of Mr. Harry D. B. Cox (Sydney) and Mr. W. H. Porter (Adelaide) as the other two directors on the Amalgamated Board were confirmed, the chairman remarking that he felt sure that these two gentlemen would worthily represent the interests of pharmacy on the Board.

General.

It was resolved to forward the sum of £5/5/- as a donation to the Patriotic Fund.

The honorary treasurer (Mr. Francis) submitted the monthly financial statement. A further sum of £21 was ordered to be transferred to the reserve fund. Accounts were passed for payment, and the meeting adjourned.

College Notes.

A Short History of the College of Pharmacy

Contributed by T. E. Turner.

Although dealing with the year 1891 in last month's Journal, I did not finish it. In the year following attendance at the College there is always the distribution of prizes to be considered. I did mention the winning of the prizes in Chemistry, Materia Medica, and Botany by Mr. E. F. Greenwood, who gained the Silver Medal in each of these subjects. Mr. Greenwood also won the gold medal of the College at a special examination held on the 29th December. The bronze medals in Chemistry and Botany were awarded to Mr. Oscar Lawson and Mr. J. C. Swain respectively, while Mr. Swain also got Certificate of Honour in Chemistry, Mr. S. Molloy in Botany. But when it came to the bronze medal in Materia Medica, there arose a difficulty; the examiner was unable to separate three students for second place. The three students were Messrs. J. C. Swain, Oscar Lawson, and S. Molloy. No third was placed. The giving of the three medals was against the grain of a certain official (the granting of three medals would lower the value), who communicated with the three, asking them if they were prepared to take a sporting chance, that is, draw lots, the unsuccessful two to receive certificates of honour, or, as an alternative would all three go up for another examination. One flatly refused to go up for another examination, a second thought all should receive medals, the third was willing to draw lots. The annual meeting of the Society (at which the prizes were distributed) settled the matter, it promptly recommended the Council to award three medals. This recommendation was adopted by the Council at its meeting in April, and the three students received their medals in due course. The President's prize for the best Final Examination of the year (1891) was won by a student from Ballarat, Mr. Albert Rushbrook. (May Mr. Vincent Rushbrook, who is one of this year's students at our College, follow the example of his worthy father and go on and win this prize, which is now so seldom appropriated.) I must not forget to mention the Blackett Herbarium Prize which was claimed in 1891 for the first time. Mr. J. W. C. Black carried off this honour, and he was complimented by the judge for the style and judgment displayed in mounting the specimens. Just here, how seldom this prize is claimed, and it is a matter of regret that so few students will devote time to field work, the most fascinating of all pursuits—ask Mr. Searle, Mr. Barnard, Mr. French, Mr. O'Donoghue, Mr. St. John, any of the leading Field Naturalists; but if Mr. McAlpine's enthusiasm would not spur them on, what hope is there?

Mr. Greenwood, when returning thanks to the President for the gold medal, paid eulogistic tribute to the lectures of Messrs. McAlpine and Plowman, and to the generosity of his employer (Mr. A. L. Stoddart, now living in well-earned retirement at Wandin) in allowing him so much time for study and the full use of a well-stocked library.

So much for 1891. In 1892 the ten-months' course was again in force, although there was a wail from the President in his annual address that the fees had fallen from £724 in 1890 to £511 in 1891. Thank goodness, we have never gone back to the abominable cram of two courses in one year!

Now for the teachers. The advertisements which had been inserted in the daily papers brought in nine applications for the appointment of lecturer in chemistry and director of the laboratory, three for lecturer on materia medica and botany, and three for pharmacy. A scrutineered ballot had to be held. Mr. Paul Ward Farmer, M.B., was elected to the first post, Mr. McAlpine to the second, and Dr. F. Hobill Cole, M.B., to the third. This was at the January meeting of the Council. Considerable interest was attached to the first appointment, because Mr. Farmer was one of the College's own students, and thus the College's teaching was, if I may use the expression, put to a certain extent upon its trial. The appointment was gratifying to myself and dozens of others who owed Mr. Farmer much for able and kindly help when preparing for our Final. Further, the good work done by him in the three years he remained at the College, his never-failing energy and courtesy, his influence in promoting good-fellowship among the students all justified his appointment. Did he satisfy everybody? Did any teacher ever satisfy all? If he were an angel from heaven he would not! There are always the indifferent, the incapable, while even among the capable there may perchance be some who look from another angle of vision.

As to the second appointment, that of Mr. McAlpine, how could it be other than popular? Mr. McAlpine had become a necessity to the College, and as indeed he remained through all the years which followed of his long and honourable stay with us.

The third appointment, which was given to Dr. F. Hobill Cole, does not concern us greatly, as it was for the teaching of Practical Pharmacy to medical students of the University. It is interesting, however, to note that Dr. Cole continued to hold this appointment until his retirement last month.

Some innovations in the teaching of the students in chemistry were made by Mr. Farmer. For instance, he illustrated urine analysis, as far as time permitted, examining for albumen, glucose, phosphates, urates, etc., and made the class do the tests themselves. I have heard it said that one of the students was able to show elimination of drugs (methylene blue, the particular one) in his own urine. Then the students purchased burettes, and volumetric estimations of many important chemicals were made. Again, a special feature was made of visits to manufactories of interest to chemists: Messrs. Felton, Grimwade and Co.'s Acid Works, the Metropolitan Gas Works, Messrs. Joshua Bros.' Distillery, and Messrs. Cameron Bros.' Tobacco Factory. Mr. Farmer took up the position that these visits had a most beneficial influence upon the students (an ounce of practice is worth a ton of theory) educationally, and socially as well. How prominent a place these visits took is shown by the fact that Mr. A. R. Bailey received a special prize for his reports thereon. The prize was given by Mr. Farmer, and Mr. Bailey certainly deserved recognition, for, I think, they still remain, even to the present time, as the best reports of visits made by College students and published in the Journal. Mr. Farmer gave another special prize (value three guineas) to the student who should obtain the highest average at the class examinations in chemistry during the year. This, Mr. F. T. Parry (our present demonstrator) won with an average of 87. Mr. Alan Stephens was second with 76 per cent., and showed such marked industry that the lecturer gave him a second prize (Proctor's Lectures on Practical Pharmacy).

In Materia Medica, Mr. McAlpine commenced to add to the already good collection of specimens preserved medicinal plants in glass jars, the object being to show them in their natural shapes and colours so that the plant and its product could be shown side by side. At the class examination for the Council prize, Mr. A. R. Bailey gained first place with 90 per cent., but he was ineligible, and Mr. Parry got it with 88 per cent. In Botany the same enthusiasm was shown as of yore for the excursions, which included trips to Cheltenham, Sandringham, Ringwood, Studley Park, University Gardens, and the Government Scent Farm at Dunolly. The last-named, to use Mr. McAlpine's expression, was "the most ambitious that had yet been attempted, and the result proved that the attempt was justified." I would recommend all students of materia medica, when they have some time to spare, to consult in our library Mr. Bailey's model report of what was seen on that visit; the report will be found in the bound copy of the Journal for 1892. In their excursion to Ringwood the students were fortunate in having (as well as their leader, Mr. McAlpine) with them a veteran collector, Mr. C. Walters, who was then in charge of the botanical department of the Technological Museum, and who had had a wonderful experience. The Botany Prize was won by Mr. Parry with 81, and he also gained the lecturer's prize for best average in the two subjects, 88 per cent.

Mr. Mat Rome continued throughout the year a popular and an able demonstrator. An important act of the year was the constituting of the lecturers by themselves into a board which was designated the Lectorial Board. Mr. McAlpine was elected President, with power to act for the Board, and to be a means of communication between it and the Council. The first suggestion was "that lecturers should be appointed as co-examiners in their respective subjects." This suggestion was sent to the Council, who, in turn, sent it to the Pharmacy Board, by whom it was promptly turned down. Another suggestion was, "That at the end of each year a social gathering of past and present students of the College and their friends be arranged for by the lecturers." A still later recommendation from the board to the Council was to substitute books or instruments for medals as prizes, which the Council at once refused to do, on the ground that medals were permanent records while books and instruments were not.

At the end of the year applications were again invited publicly for all four positions, the three lecturers and the demonstrator, though this seemed unnecessary. At the December meeting an attempt was made to raise the somewhat meagre salary (£100) of the demonstrator to £150, but this failed. Of the students of 1892 who are still in the actual calling of pharmacy are:—Mr. Alex. Cohn, Camberwell; Mr. T. B. Huntsman, Fitzroy; Mr. Martin Nugent, Elmore; Mr. A. T. Palfreyman, Hobart; Mr. Thos. Ryan, with Mr. Fisher, Elizabeth-street; Mr. Alan Stephens, Canterbury; Mr. W. J. Boanas, N.S.W.; Mr. W. T. Trenery, Wallsend, Newcastle; Mr C. F. Yelland, North Fitzroy; Messrs. A. R. Bailey and Frank Denkes attended as well as in 1891.

Reunion.

The past and present students of the Melbourne College of Pharmacy held a very successful dance in All Saints' Hall, East St. Kilda, on August 20th. There were present about 150, including lecturers, students and friends, and a very enjoyable evening was passed. The hall was tastefully decorated in blue and gold, with pot plants and ferns placed at intervals around the interior and on the platform, giving the hall a delightfully fresh appearance. From out among the ferns on the platform Jones and Rosenthal's band, with its bright music, completed what from the first seemed would be most fascinating. One of the features of the evening was the programmes, which were delightfully perfumed by Messrs. L. T. Piver with their safronor. Much of the success of the dance was due to the committee who, with the energetic secretaries, Messrs. Rex Tyler and Harold Cooke, worked hard in making it the social event of the College year.

Correspondence.

To the Editor *Australasian Journal of Pharmacy.*

Selling Photographic Materials After Hours.

Dear Sir,—At a recent meeting of the Central Committee of the Metropolitan Association, it was reported that a number of complaints had been made by various photographic establishments (wholesale and retail), that some chemists were injudiciously selling photographic materials after hours, when other houses dealing in photographic materials only, were obliged by law to close their establishments.

This matter was fully discussed by the Executive, which earnestly requests all chemists who knowingly or unknowingly have been guilty of the practice complained of to immediately desist from doing so. The continuance of such a practice cannot but have most injurious effects on the welfare of pharmacists in general. The law has always treated pharmacists on account of the nature of their business with leniency, and it therefore behoves every chemist not to take any advantage whatever of such, for the result would be, that much more stringent laws would be enforced on pharmaceutical chemists in future.

For their own protection chemists should immediately refrain from selling photographic materials after hours.

I am, etc., A. L. J. PETERS,
Hon. General Secretary.

Reviews.

Medical and Pharmaceutical Latin, by Reginald R. Bennett. 2nd Edition. That such a book was a real need is shown by the fact that the first edition was so soon exhausted. We will again emphasise portion of Professor Greenish's introduction, which still remains:—"Mr. Bennett has had ample opportunity of becoming acquainted with the requirements of pharmacy and medicine, with the difficulties they encounter, and with the help they require. These demands, Mr. Bennett has met. He has supplied a work that will enable the student to revise rapidly a fading knowledge of Latin Grammar that will familiarise him with the correct reading and writing of prescriptions, and that will, with its copious vocabularies, suffice for all his pharmaceutical requirements." If this book had been in a particular pharmacy, one of our leading wholesale houses would not have been at its wits' end to supply two pounds of "furfur" on a recent occasion. The purpose of the book has not been altered in any way, but some of the sections have been rearranged, and the vocabularies have been added to. In this latter respect close attention has evidently been paid—we find *acidum acetyl-salicylicum*, which was not in the first. We also find *oblatum* as the Latin for cachet. Is this any better than *capsula amylacea*?

To our way of thinking, this book is an essential to both master and student in pharmacy, and if so to them, how much more so to the prescriber.—T.E.T.

EXAMINATIONS.

Pharmacy Board of Victoria.

SEPTEMBER EXAMINATIONS.

Latin.—1. Translate *either* of the given pieces from Cæsar, *or* from Vergil.

2. Parse carefully, according to directions, the words in italics in the passages chosen for translation.

In parsing noun or adjective give nominative and genitive in Latin, without abbreviation, number, gender, case, and full syntax. In parsing a verb give chief parts in Latin, without abbreviation, person, number, tense, mood, voice, and full syntax.

3. Decline throughout, giving meaning and gender of nouns, meaning of adjectives and pronouns:—nouns—sol, nemus, dies; adjectives—piger, dives; pronouns—aliquis, quidam.

4. Give in columns, for the following nouns, gender, meaning, genitive, and ablative, singular and plural:—nepos, obses, remex, ateas, eques.

5. (a) Give the meaning and the comparison of the adjectives:—senex, malevolus, gracilis, idoneus, parvus; adverbs—graviter, bene, paullum, saepe.

(*b*) Give Latin for—7, 17, 17 each, 74 houses, 456 foot soldiers, 50,000 soldiers, five hundred times.

6. Explain and give an instance of these constructions:—

(*a*) Accusative of duration of time, ablative of definite price, ablative of point of time.

(*b*) Explain what is meant by sequence of tenses. Translate according to your explanation—

"The soldiers fight that they may defend their country."

"The soldiers fought that they might defend their country."

7. Give the principal parts and meanings of—

(*a*) Perdo, pereo, confero, pello, cresco, obliviscor, metior, queror.

(*b*) Write down present infinitive passive and future participate active of the following verbs:—do, domo, moveo, misceo, consulo, rego, vincio, haurio.

(*c*) Write out these tenses—

Future indicative active of sto.
Present subjunctive passive of vincio.
Imperfect subjunctive passive of confero.
Future indicative passive of domo.
Perfect subjunctive active of transeo.
Present indicative of prosum.
Present subjunctive of volo.

8. Translate into Latin—

(*a*) Caesar said that he hoped to defeat the Swiss.

(*b*) Do not forget kindnesses received.

(*c*) If your brother had gone to Rome he would have met his friend.

Arithmetic.—1. Find the numerical value of

$$x^3 - 3x^2 + 3x - 1 \text{ when } x = 11.$$

2 Reduce to lowest terms

$$\frac{12}{19}\left(\frac{2}{3} - \frac{3}{4} + \frac{5}{9} - \frac{11}{12}\right) \div \left(\frac{1\frac{2}{3}}{1\frac{1}{8}} \text{ of } \frac{1\frac{1}{2}}{5} \div \frac{3}{2\frac{2}{3}}\right).$$

3. Standard gold is worth £3 17s. 10½d. per oz. troy. Find the value of 13 lbs. 5 oz. 18 dwts. 7 grains of standard gold.

4. What cash will a banker give for a bill of £724 13s. 4d., drawn 3rd January, 1914, at six months, and discounted 24th April at 5 per cent.? Give answer to nearest penny.

5. A wine merchant buys two kinds of spirits at 14s. 6d. and 17s. 6d. per gallon respectively. He blends them, and sells the mixture at 16s. 8d. a gallon without gain or loss. In what proportion were the two kinds mixed?

6. What is the gross income of a man who pays £59 6s. 8d. income tax at the rate of 10d. in the £1?

7. The cost of making a bicycle is £8. The maker adds on a profit of 25 per cent. to this in selling it to a dealer. The dealer sells the bicycle for £12 10s. Find the dealer's profit per cent.

8. Multiply 13 kilometres, 17 hectometres, 18 metres, 17 centimetres, 2 millimetres by 5; divide 9 kilometres, 37 decametres, 18 decimetres, 12 millimetres by 4, and find by how many metres the former result exceeds the latter.

9. Platinum costs £4 18s. 10d. per ounce troy. Assuming that an ounce troy = 31.1 grammes, find the cost of 1 kilogramme of platinum.

10. Find the depth of water in a tank which is 3.15 metres long, 2.43 metres wide, and contains 2679.075 litres of water.

English.—1. Write an Essay on—Winter, Mountains, or Motor Cars.

2. Give the general and the detailed analysis of—

Some talked of gold and jewels buried in the tomb, over which the spectre kept watch; and there was a story current of a sexton in old times who endeavoured to break his way to the coffin at night, but, just as he reached it, received a violent blow from the marble hand of the effigy, which stretched him senseless on the pavement.

3. Correct all errors you find in the following sentences, giving your reasons:—

(*a*) There let him lay.
(*b*) The man often laid in bed till noon.
(*c*) He is going to vote for Mr. X., whom, he says, is a candidate.
(*d*) Every nation was blended under the Roman rule.
(*e*) People ceased to laugh by degrees.

4. (*a*) Explain, with an instance of each, these grammatical terms:—Nominative absolute, abstract noun, collective noun, distributive adjective.

(*b*) Distinguish strong and weak verbs. Give the principal parts of bring, sing, take, seek, teach, set, bleed, eat, and mark each as strong or weak.

5. Name the authors of the following pieces, and briefly give the substance of each:—Retaliation, Shakespeare's Birthday, Kenilworth, Speech on Conciliation.

6. (*a*) Describe the annual feast given by Lamb's friend, Jem White, to the chimney sweeps of London.

(*b*) What two great English statesmen does Scott refer to in his introduction to Marmion? Summarise what he says about them.

7. Explain these allusions, giving the context:—

(*a*) And Ardennes waves above them her green leaves.
(*b*) When they talked of their Raphaels, Correggios, and stuff,
He shifted his trumpet and only took snuff.
(*c*) Many noble Rachels mourning for their children, even in our days, countenance the fact.
(*d*) We will brook no mayor of the palace here.
(*e*) The Queen drew back the wimple that she wore.

8. Write out the stanza beginning "Within a windowed niche . . . ."

Write out the whole of Wordsworth's poem "To a Skylark."

Algebra.—1. Find the continued product of $(x^2 + 3x + 2)\ (x^2 + 3x - 2)\ (x^4 + 6x^3 + 9x^2 - 4)$.

2. Divide $a^6 - 3a^4b^2 + 3a^2b^4 - b^6 + c^6$ by $a^2 - b^2 + c^2$.

3. Reduce to lowest terms

$$\frac{x^3 - 2x^2 - 14x - 5}{x^3 - 3x^2 - 17x - 6}.$$

4. Simplify

(i) $$\frac{a(b+c)}{(a-b)(a-c)} + \frac{b(c+a)}{(b-c)(b-a)} + \frac{c(a+b)}{(c-a)(c-b)}.$$

(ii) $$\frac{1}{a-b} - \frac{1}{a+b} - \frac{2b}{a^2+b^2} - \frac{4b^3}{a^4+b^4}$$

5. Find the factors of
(i) $6x^2 - 11x + 3$;
(ii) $(a + b)^3 - c^3$;
(iii) $a^3 + a^2b + ab^2 + b^3$.

6. Solve the equation

$$(a + b + x)\ (a + b - x) = (a + x)\ (b - x) - ab.$$

7. Solve the simultaneous equations—

$$\frac{5x-3}{2} - \frac{3x-19}{2} = 4 - \frac{3y-x}{3};$$

$$\frac{2x+y}{2} - \frac{9x-7}{8} = \frac{3y+9}{4} - \frac{4x+5y}{16}.$$

8. Solve the quadratic

$$\frac{x^2}{2} - \frac{x}{3} + 7\tfrac{3}{8} = 8.$$

9. *A* and *B* buy a motor-cycle for £120. *A* can pay for it if *B* will advance him half the money he has in his pocket. *B* can pay for it if *A* will advance him two-thirds of the money he has in his pocket. How much has each in his pocket?

10. A plantation in rows consists of 10,000 trees. If there had been 20 fewer rows there would have been 25 more trees in a row. How many rows are there?

Euclid.—1. If two triangles have two sides and the included angle of one equal, respectively, to the corresponding parts of the other, the triangles shall be equal in all respects.

Show that the straight line which bisects the vertical angle of an isosceles triangle also bisects the base.

2. Any two sides of a triangle are together greater than the third side.

The sum of the sides of a quadrilateral is greater than the sum of its diagonals.

3. The three interior angles of any triangle are equal to two right angles.

Find the magnitude, expressed both in terms of a right angle and a degree, of the angle of a regular heptagon.

4. If a straight line cuts two other straight lines so as to make the alternate angles equal to each other, then the two straight lines must be parallel.

5. Parallelograms on equal bases and between the same parallels are equal in area.

6. The square on the hypotenuse of a right-angled triangle is equal in area to the combined areas of the squares on the other two sides.

7. If a straight line be divided into any two parts, the square on the whole line is equal to the sum of the rectangles contained by the whole line and each of the parts.

8. If a straight line is divided into two parts, the sum of the squares on the whole line and on one of the parts is equal to twice the rectangle contained by the whole line and that part together with the square on the other part.

To what well-known algebraical identity is this the geometrical equivalent?

9. In any triangle the square on the side subtending an acute angle is less than the sum of the squares on the sides containing the acute angle by twice the rectangle contained by either of those sides and the projection on it of the other.

Trade Notes.

"Laxamel" presents "Paroleine" combined with a base, which renders it acceptable to those who find difficulty in the ingestion of liquid paraffins, and is of particular value in the treatment of the large group of cases of constipation dependent upon deficiency of lubricating material in the bowel. It is well adapted to modify the consistency of dry, hardened foecal material, and to assist in its evacuation. It can be given to delicate patients, without giving rise to unpleasant effects, and it is particularly useful in those many cases in which ordinary laxatives or purgatives are undesirable. "Laxamel" is issued by Burroughs, Wellcome and Co. in glass pots.

Mr. A. J. Miller, of A. P. Miller & Son, Hobart, has placed on the market a nasal catarrh and hay fever remedy under the name of "Nazetha." It is a P.A.T.A. line, and retails at 1s. 6d. Advertising in the daily papers has been started, and a number of pharmacists are now stocking the line.

Mr. D. A. Greenlees, Vickery's Chambers, 82 Pitt-street, Sydney, has a fine range of samples of medicated confectionery, B.P. and E.P. and R. formulas, put up in tins, boxes or screw top bottles as desired. Mr. Greenless will be pleased to send price lists to any pharmacist desiring same

Mr. G. A. Ripley, 20 Grosvenor-street, Sydney, recently arrived from London representing Messrs. Pritchard and Constance (Perfumery); Thos. Christy and Co.; I. and M. Cohen (Sponges); and J. Mason and Sons (Toilet Specialities). Mr. Ripley has opened an office, and is showing samples at the above address.

Emetine Hydrochloride (P., D. & Co.) is a convenient salt of emetine for medical use. It is supplied in sterile aqueous solution in Glaseptic Ampoules, and is in ½ or ⅔ grain doses to adults and ⅓rd doses to children. This preparation has a specific curative action in Amebic disease. The method of administration is by subcutaneous infection.

"The Nyalist," published by Messrs. Frederick Stearnes and Co. to further the Nyal movement in Australia and New Zealand is a well-produced and readable little magazine. The September number just to hand is the first that has been devoted entirely to Commonwealth and Dominion news. It should greatly assist the Nyal movement.

Window Dressing Competition.—The Victorian Chamber of Manufactures is organising an Australian Manufactures' Week from November 13 to 21st, 1914, and has devoted a special section to the display of chemists' articles. There is no entry fee. Prizes will be awarded for the best two windows in each class. Pharmacists are requested to make a special effort to give prominence to Australian-made goods during the week mentioned, even although they may not be entering for the competition. Window cards, motto slips, and all information will be supplied on application to the Secretary, Mr. F. L. W. Ashby, 264-8 Flinders-street, Melbourne.

Personal.

Mr. A. L. Craven is at present relieving Mr. Geo. Gill, Hamilton.

Mr. B. J. Franklin has gone to assist Mr. C. E. Wade, Bairnsdale.

Mr. R. L. Burrows has been relieving Mr. J. J. Hill, Upper Hawthorn.

Mr. J. M. Harkness has accepted a position with Mr. E. M. Gibbs, South Yarra.

Mr. F. J. Keane has accepted a permanent position with Mr. J. W. Scott, Ballarat.

Mr. H. T. Ward, late of the Melbourne Hospital, has gone to the Geelong Dispensary.

Mr. S. Molloy has gone to the Footscray Dispensary, vice Mr. A. L. Ayscough, resigned.

Mr. J. J. Hill, Upper Hawthorn, is at present enjoying a holiday trip to New South Wales.

Mr. C. Fyffe, a registered chemist of New Zealand, has accepted a position at the Brunswick Dispensary.

Mr. F. J. Brady, late with Messrs. Cheshire and Champion, has accepted an engagement with Mr. F. Buckhurst, Camberwell.

MR. J. H. LAKELAND is looking after Mr. Merfield's pharmacy at Kew. Mr. Merfield is absent on a visit to Sydney.

MR. J. J. CARROLL is acting as locum tenens for Mr. H. M. Martell, of Portland. Mr. Martell has been spending a few days in Melbourne.

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL HAROLD W. GRIMWADE has been appointed by the military authorities Chief Embarkation Officer in connection with the Australian Overseas Expeditionary Force.

MESSRS. G. E. GULLIVER, F. LONGMORE, G. PLEASANCE, and J. W. WALKER, four Victorian pharmacists in London, were present at the British Pharmaceutical Conference meeting, which was held at Chester on July 22, and were warmly welcomed by the president.

MR. A. J. MILLER, Hobart, has been on a visit to Melbourne, accompanied by Mrs. Miller. During his stay he took the opportunity of meeting the Sigma Directors and talking over Tasmanian prospects with them. He also expressed himself greatly pleased with the success of the six o'clock closing movements in Hobart and Launceston. P.D.L. matters received his attention, and he devoted a morning to discussing the possibility of its extension to Tasmania, in conjunction with the Amalgamated Insurance Company.

MR. MOSES WARD died at Hobart on Sept. 21, aged 87. The deceased gentleman was a very old pharmaceutical identity in Queensland. One of his sons is Mr. J W. Ward, registrar of the Pharmacy Board of Queensland.

MR. J. A. WALKER, pharmacist, Northcote, returned to Melbourne on September 21st. from his trip abroad.

MESSRS. WALTER B. UTBER & GEO. E. CRANSTOUN, two Victorian pharmacists, have completed their medical course, and had the degrees of M.B., B.S., conferred on them by the Melbourne University on September 21.

MR. H. T. TOMPSITT was entertained at lunch at the Occidental Hotel, Melbourne, on September 9, by the members of the Pharmacy Board. Mr. C. E. Towl presided, and in proposing Mr. Tompsitt's health, alluded to the interest Mr. Tompsitt had always taken in the affairs of the Board, both during the long time he was a member and since his retirement a few years ago. It was a pleasure to welcome him back again looking so well, and he (Mr. Towl) felt sure that all the members would join in extending a warm and hearty welcome to their guest. Mr. Tompsitt briefly responded. He thanked the Board for its courtesy and kindness in extending the invitation to him to be present. Although at the other end of the world, he had followed the work of the Board through the journals with great interest. When the new board was elected he confessed he had some misgivings as to how things would work out, but he was glad to say that these had all been dissipated. The Board had done useful and valuable work, which he felt sure had been appreciated by pharmacists generally. It was a pleasure to note the happier relationships now existing throughout the craft. He wished them all prosperity in their businesses, continued good health, and many years of service as members of the Board.

Births & Deaths.

BIRTH.

SAYER.—On September 4th, at "Beaulieu," Hopetoun-street, Bendigo, to Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Sayer —a son.

DEATH.

PIKE.—On August 4th, at Adelaide, South Australia, Elizabeth Fanny, eldest daughter of Mr. J. W. Pike (Maw, Son and Sons), after a short illness.

WARD.—On September 21st, at Hobart, Moses Ward, pharmacist, late of Brisbane, aged 87 years.

A Correction.

In the August issue a statement appeared to the effect that the price of Euthymol Tooth Paste had been raised 5 per cent., "chiefly on account of higher freight, and the difficulty in getting collapsible tubes, the great bulk of which come from Germany." Messrs. Parke, Davis and Co. inform us that in their opinion the paragraph might lead chemists to infer that their Euthymol Tooth Paste tubes were made in Germany. They have requested us to state that this is not the case, as the tubes are made in England. They also inform us that there has been no advance in the selling price of this line, and point out that their letter on which our paragraph was based simply advised the withdrawal of the special discount of 5 per cent. on 25 gross parcels.

— A —

WHOLESOME

DRINK—

An Open Letter To the Retail Druggists' Trade.

Account Registers Pty. Ltd.

Distributing Agents for the McCaskey Accounts Registers.

PHONE 4596.

31 Queen Street,
Melbourne, 19th September, 1914.

To the Retail Druggist, Victoria,

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yours serviceably,

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Preparation.	Price per dozen	Price to Public.
PARSIDIUM JELLY	16/-	1/9 nett
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Menthol, gr. 1/20th. Cocaine, gr. 1/20th. Red Gum, 2 grs.

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Eucalyptus, ½ minim of the Oil. Red Gum, gr. 1.

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Guaiacum, gr. 1. Chlorate of Potash, grs. 2. Red Gum, gr. ½.

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Extract of Rhatany, grs. 2. Cocaine Hydrochlor., gr. 1/20th.

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Chlorate of Potash, grs. 2. Borax, gr. 1. Cocaine, gr. 1/20th.

No. 54. MENTHOL AND EUCALYPTUS.
Menthol, gr. 1/20th. Eucalyptus Oil, min. 1.

No. 56. MENTHOL, EUCALYPTUS AND COCAINE.
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GARDNER'S SYRUP contains 1.28 per cent. Hydriodic Acid. Each fl. drm. = gr. iii. Iodid. Potas. or Sodium.
DOSE; 1 to 4 fluid drachms. Should always be given *before* meals and *well* diluted with water. Should *not* be *combined* with other remedies.
PURPOSE:—Furnishes Iodine in the most assimilable and *least irritant* form. Should replace Potassium Iodide, Sodium Iodide and Strontium Iodide because it is exceed ngly agreeable to the taste, does not disturb functional activity and will *not cause indigestion.*
INDICATIONS: Rheumatism, Tertiary Syphilis, Bronchitis, Bronchial Asthma, Goiter, Eczema, Lead Poisoning, and other Iodine Indications.
Incompatible with alkaloids, hydrates, carbonates, and most metallic salts.

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Incompatible with free acids, alkalies, chlorates, or other oxygen liberating compounds.
DOSE: 1 to 2 fluid drachms, p r.n. May be given diluted or not, according to taste. Need *not* be combined with codein, heroin, morphin, or other narcotics and anodynes, as it soothes the irritated respiratory mucous membrane without the aid of these drugs. Contains 16 grs. C.P. Ammon, Hypophos. to fl. oz.

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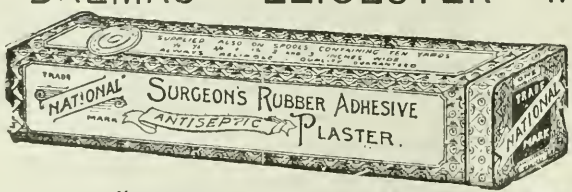

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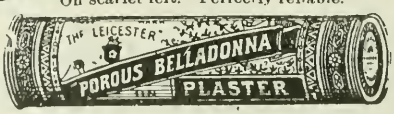

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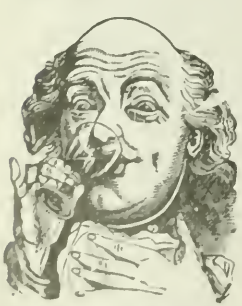

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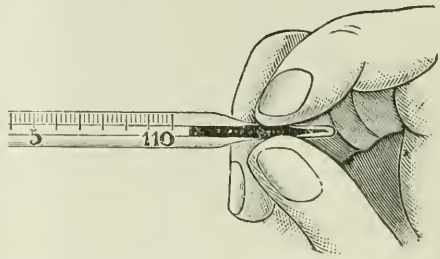

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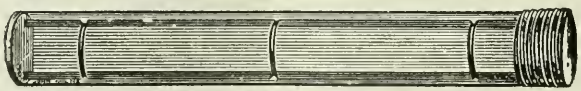

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Students are recommended to commence not later than October, so as to be prepared to enter for the examination of the Victorian Optical Class, which takes place in November of the following year.

The papers for the course will follow as closely as possible the subject and system of teaching adopted at the Victorian Optical Class, and Students are recommended to sit for the examination of the class at the end of each year.

To be eligible for this course Students must reside outside a radius of 20 miles from Melbourne.

FEES: The Fee for the Twelve Months' Course will be £7 7s. in each section.

The Student will need to provide himself with the following Text Books:—
FOR 1ST SECTION—"Elementary Optics," by Glazebrook.
FOR 2ND SECTION—"The Key to Sight-testing," by Taylor and McKinney.

All correspondence, enquiries, entries, etc., in the first place to be made to Mr. W. NOTT, Hon. Sec., V.O.A., 161 Collins Street, Melbourne.

Pharmacy Board of Victoria.

SPECIAL INDENTURE FORM.

PHARMACISTS are notified that the Board has adopted a special form of apprenticeship indenture. Copies are obtainable on application. 1s. each, or three for 2s. 6d.

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Pharmacy Board of New South Wales.

NOTICE is hereby given that the English Author at the Preliminary Examinations after the 1st December, 1913, and until further notice, will be Scott's "Lady of the Lake," Canto I., with introductory stanzas.

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Pharmacy Board Notices.

MEDICAL ACT 1890. PART III.

THE PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION.

AS required by Section 88, Sub-section 4 of the "Medical Act 1890," Part III., is held at the COLLEGE OF PHARMACY, Swanston Street, Melbourne, in MARCH, JUNE, SEPTEMBER, DECEMBER.

Next Examination: TUESDAY and WEDNESDAY, 1st and 2nd Dec., 1914.

The following are the compulsory subjects:—

LATIN.—Grammar, accidence and syntax. Translation of simple sentences into Latin. Translation into English from Cæsar, De Bello, Gallico, Book I., Chapter 1-29, inclusive, or Vergil Aeneid, Book I., Lines 1-401, inclusive.

ENGLISH.—Grammar and Composition. Literature. The University Text Book in English.

ARITHMETIC.—First four rules, simple and compound; vulgar and decimal fractions; simple and compound proportion; profit and loss; simple and compound interest; true and commercial discount and present worth; extraction of square root; British and metrical system of weights and measures; problems relating to lineal, square and cubic measurements, averages.

ALGEBRA.—Notation, symbolic expressions, addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. Highest common factor and lowest common multiple. Fractions, cyclic order. Extraction of square root. Proof of algebraical identities. Simple equations of one and two variables. Quadratic equations of one variable. Equational problems.

GEOMETRY.—Euclid, Books I. and II.

TIME-TABLE.

FIRST DAY.

Latin ...	...	10 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.
Arithmetic	...	2 p.m. to 4.30 p.m.

SECOND DAY.

English ...	...	9.30 a.m. to 11.30 a.m.
Algebra ...	...	12.30 p.m. to 2.20 p.m.
Euclid ...	...	3 p.m. to 5 p.m.

TEXT BOOKS.

The following text books are recommended by the Examiner:—

LATIN.—Accidence, syntax and composition. Allen's Elementary Latin Grammar. Allen's First Latin Exercise Book.

ENGLISH.—Accidence, syntax, and analysis. Any good school treatise, such as Nesfield's Outline of English Grammar, omitting Part V.

ARITHMETIC.—Any good school treatise.

ALGEBRA.—Any good school treatise. Longman's Junior School Algebra will be found a serviceable book.

GEOMETRY.—Any good school treatise on Euclid, Book I., the works by Hall and Stevens, Smith and Bryant, Layng, or R. Deakin (tutorial series), may be mentioned as thoroughly satisfactory manuals.

EXAMINATION QUESTIONS.

The questions given at the examinations are published in the "Australasian Journal of Pharmacy" for March, June, September and December in each year. 1s. a co v

PASS STANDARD.

THE marks for a pass in any of the compulsory subjects of the Preliminary Examination shall not be less than 50 per cent. of the maximum marks of 100, and an aggregate of 60 per cent. in all the subjects.

Any candidate failing to obtain a pass in not more than two subjects shall be entitled to present himself in either or both of the subjects in which he failed at any subsequent examination on payment of the prescribed fees, provided he obtains not less than 25 per cent of the maximum marks of 100, in either or both of the subjects.

ENGLISH TEXT BOOK, SEPTEMBER, 1914.

The English Text Book for the Preliminary Examinations for September and December, 1914, and March and June, 1915, will be "Selected English," by Ray Phillips, omitting "Alexander's Feast," by Dryden.

To be memorized:

Shelley—*Ode to the West Wind.*
Arnold—*The Church of Brou. Part III.*
Byron—*Childe Harold. Canto III, xxi to xxviii.*
Keats—*Ode to a Grecian Urn.*
Wordsworth—*O Nightingale.*
Wordsworth—*To a Skylark.*

Candidates must give written notice of their intention to present themselves, together with the Fee of One Guinea, TEN DAYS prior to the date fixed for the examination.

REPORTS ON PAPERS.

REGULATION 57.—Any candidate who desires a report on any of the written papers submitted by him at any examination shall, within fourteen days of the publication of the results of such examination, lodge with the Registrar an application for a report on such papers, and shall pay the following fees:—

Preliminary Examination: 10/6 for any or all of such papers.
Intermediate or Final Examination: 10/6 for each paper to be reported on.

INTERMEDIATE EXAMINATION.

MATERIA MEDICA, BOTANY, CHEMISTRY, AND PRACTICAL CHEMISTRY.

THE EXAMINATION of Students who have attended the Lectures in the above subjects is held half-yearly in June and December. The next examination will be held at the COLLEGE OF PHARMACY on 3rd, 4th, 5th and 7th DEC., 1914. The Examination Fee of Two Guineas must be paid ten days before that date.

THE FINAL EXAMINATION.

The next FINAL EXAMINATION IN PRACTICAL PHARMACY before the Board will be held at the College of Pharmacy on the 8th, 9th, 10th and 11th Dec., 1914.

Candidates must give ten days' written notice of their intention to present themselves. Indentures of Apprenticeship and the Certificates required by Section 88, Sub-division 4, of "The Medical Act 1890," Part III., must be lodged with the Registrar, and the Fee of Three Guineas paid ten days prior to the day of examination.

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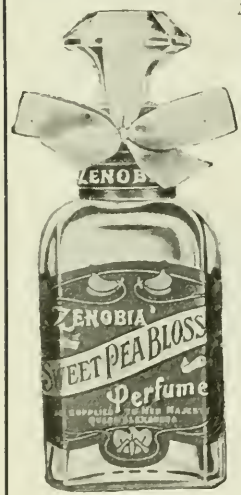

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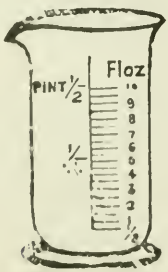

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